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BIRTH.

On the 12th March, at Woodneuk, Singapore, the wife of JAMES CAMPBELL KER, S.M.J., of Johore, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 12th March, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, by the Ven. Archdeacon Dunkerley, HARRY EPHICK, second son of Mrs. DALLAN, Singapore, to DOROTHY HART, eldest daughter of Mrs. R. COWAN, Singapore.

DEATHS.

On the 14th March, at 2, Wilkie Road, Singapore, BERTAM GEORGE, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Frosr, aged 9 weeks.

On the 18th March, at Seoul, Corea, ALFRED BURT STRIPPLE, aged 63 years.

On the 19th March, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, JOHN SNOWDEN, pilot, aged 71 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
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ARRIVAL OF MAIIS.

The French Mail of the 19th ult. arrived, per the s.s. *Salazie*, on the 22nd inst.; and the English Mail of the 26th ult. arrived, per the s.s. *Bengal* on Friday, the 25th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

War news has been extremely scanty during the past week. Some telegrams, etc., will be found on pp. 235-6.

The Russian cruiser *Aurora* and three destroyers of the Mediterranean Squadron have arrived at Bizerta.

Reuter's Agency at S. Petersburg wires that it is unofficially stated that the Japanese reopened the bombardment of Port Arthur on the 22nd inst.

An official Russian despatch, confirming that Japanese infantry and artillery occupied Anju and Pingyang, says that an increased movement of troops between these places is noticeable.

A Russian officer attached to the General staff has been convicted at S. Petersburg of selling secret plans for the organisation of the field army to Japan. The officer has been executed.

The management of the Canadian-Pacific Railway Empress Line, acting under the instructions of the Government, refuses to transport foodstuffs to Japan, as they are held to be contraband of war.

The *Temps* (Paris) states that the French Minister at Tokyo has protested, on behalf of Russia, against the bombardment of the quarantine station at Saushantoa, near Port Arthur, on the 10th instant.

The Washington Government, at the request of Mr. Takahira, has instructed Mr. McCormick to ask Russia to assist fifty Japanese non-combatants in Siberia, whose lives are in danger, to reach Berlin, where the Legation will look after them.

The Government of the United States has sanctioned the laying of a cable from Japan to Guam on the ground that as it will afford commercial facilities the laying of the cable at the present time does not constitute a breach of neutrality.

It is admitted in S. Petersburg that the Japanese are concentrating in the North of Corea more rapidly than the Russians, and that they have effectively fortified Anju. General Mischenko, however, with 6,000 cavalry is ready to harass them unceasingly, directly they move beyond Anju.

On the 21st inst. our Shanghai correspondent telegraphed that one thousand opium-smugglers, under a leader of the name of Yuan, had started a rebellion 70 miles south of Chungking, defeating the Imperial troops, who lost 16 men killed, while the remainder fled. The Chung-king officials have sent reinforcements.

The Hongkong, Canton, and Macao s.s. *Heungshan* brings news from Macao that a band of pirates attacked a Chinese township about eight miles from Macao, last Sunday night. The town guard was called out to defend the population, with the result that 17 of them were killed. The pirates, however, were repulsed, and, it is said, some of them were killed. As they managed to carry away the dead and wounded, their loss is not exactly known.

Lieutenant-General Schilinsky, until now Quartermaster-General in the General Staff of the Russian Army in S. Petersburg, has been appointed Chief of Staff to, and General Flong Quartermaster on the General Staff of, General Kuropatkin.

Hongkong was startled on the 22nd inst. with a most circumstantial account of the capture of Port Arthur by the Japanese on the 20th, after 16 hours' fighting. No confirmation was to be had from any other source, and the story was next day completed "exploded."

The new section of the Canton-Hankow branch line from Fatshan to Samshui will not be opened until April owing to delay caused in the constructional operations by the rains. It was originally expected that the formal opening of the new section should take place to-morrow. It is about 30 miles in extent. On the present line from Canton to Fatshan about 4,000 passengers travel daily. When the new section is opened it is expected that the number of passengers will be doubled.

Writing of the Tientsin deportation case the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—The result is that Mr. Cowen, after building up a successful business, is compelled to abandon it, and to leave China. For most men in a similar position this would mean ruin, and in the circumstances the punishment seems to be very much more severe than the offence deserves. It seems to us that the power of deportation possessed by British Courts in the Far East under extraterritoriality is not sufficiently safeguarded against abuse, notwithstanding that each case has to be reported to the Supreme Court.

Mr. T. Cowen telegraphed to the *Straits Times* from Seoul, in the 15th inst., that Corean office-seekers are trying to arrange a revolution in the Royal Palace, on the pretext of effecting sweeping reforms. They are hoping for Japanese favour, but Minister Hayashi firmly disconcerns any haste or violence in the present crisis, and hopes to be able to effect reforms gradually, so as to avoid friction. He recognises that the Coreans, as politicians, are uniformly insincere in their actions. The Royal Palace is infested with swarms of astrologers and parasites, whom it is hoped to weed out gently and with patience.

Recent dispatches from Kwangsi, says the N.-C. *Daily News*, report that malcontents and bandits of that province are beginning once more to start upon their guerrilla warfare against the Government and Viceroy Tsén (Shum) is making elaborate preparations to put a stop to it. To do this H.E. has been again drawing upon other provinces for reinforcements, no less than 6,000 men being asked for from the Governor of Shensi alone. It is also stated in reliable quarters in Canton that the Viceroy intends to make a careful selection out of all the troops he has drawn from the various provinces, as well as from the regiments he has himself raised and organised in Kwangtung provinces, and with these picked battalions form the nucleus of a proposed army of 40,000 reliable soldiers who are to be entirely armed and provided with the best rifles procurable and drilled and organised after the modern style. These troops are to be held ready for transport to the North, with Viceroy Shum himself at their head, whenever circumstances of war require their presence outside Shanghai-kwan.

THE EVACUATION OF NEW-CHWANG AND MANCHURIA.

(*Daily Press*, 24th March.)

Among the subjects dealt with in the report published last week of the local branch of the China Association was that of the continued occupation of Newchwang by the Russians, and their interference with the trade of that treaty port, which, as Mr. WILCOX said at the meeting on the 17th instant, has led to the interchange of much correspondence and excited a great deal of just indignation on the part of those engaged in trade with Newchwang. By the French mail on Tuesday we received from London a Government White Paper (China No. 2), containing correspondence respecting the Russian occupation of Manchuria and Newchwang and comprising 163 despatches, ranging in date from July, 1900, to January, 1904. Not all of the despatches are new, those previously published being apparently included in order to furnish a complete narrative of the negotiations. The story is a most striking one of the procrastination and intrigue with China on the part of Russia, and of the diplomatic pressure by Great Britain, the United States, and Japan to secure evacuation and to prevent any compact between Russia and China prejudicial either to the integrity of China or to the commercial rights of the Powers. There is a great deal of interesting matter in the White Paper, which would be well worth quotation if we could devote the space to it. However, we cannot do so, and we must content ourselves with drawing attention to a few points. The first document is noteworthy—a communicated despatch of July, 1900, from Count Lamsdorff, to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in London setting out the objections at the time held by the Russian Government to Japan being given a special mandate in China with a view to the suppression of the insurrectionary movement provoked by the Boxers and the re-establishment of order at Peking and Tientsin. Such a special mandate to Japan "might to a certainty encroach on the fundamental principles which had already been accepted by the majority of the Powers as the basis of their policy relative to events in China." So thought Count LAMSDOFF. It is well to consider his remark carefully when one analyses Russia's subsequent policy with regard to China.

It was in January, 1901, that the British Foreign Office first heard of the Manchurian agreement between China and Russia, the revealer of it being the Peking correspondent of the *Times*; and a telegram was despatched to Sir CHARLES SCOTT, at S. Petersburg, directing him to enquire into the truth of the report. The British Ambassador on the 6th February of the same year obtained from Count LAMSDOFF an emphatic denial of the agreement and a statement that "Russia was in the same position with regard to fixing a final date for evacuating Manchuria as the allies found themselves in with regard to the evacuation of Peking and the Province of Pechili." The Chinese Minister in London had already—on the 15th January—assured Lord LANSDOWNE that no such agreement as published in the papers had been concluded. In February a memorandum was handed to the Chinese Minister at Washington, warning China not to conclude an agreement with any one particular Power. In March Sir ERNEST SATOW telegraphed to the Foreign Office a translation of the Chinese text of the agreement. Sir CHARLES SCOTT was at once instructed to communicate this to Count LAMSDOFF and point out that it was irreconcileable with his

assurances. That amiable Russian diplomatist was ready with fresh assurances and talked of "the very dangerous claim" of the Press and public to be admitted to a seat and voice in the councils of the Powers. The agreement fell through soon after, but in August of the same year Russia resumed negotiations with China. Britain now began to interest herself more particularly in the matter of Newchwang, pressing for the restoration of the Customs to the Chinese Government. But, as is well known, nothing happened beyond the interchange of despatches, and affairs dragged wearily on, with more negotiations between Russia and China, and more Russian assurances to the Powers. Then, in May last, while Lord LANSDOWNE was trying to exert more energetic pressure upon Russia to evacuate, and was receiving the usual assurances, Mr. MACCORMICK, the United States Ambassador at S. Petersburg, confronted Count LAMSDOFF with a Note asking him whether certain further demands alleged to have been made by Russia upon China had in fact been made. The account of the interview, given by Mr. MACCORMICK to Sir C. Scott states that "Count LAMSDOFF looked at the Note, and at once in the most positive manner assured Mr. MACCORMICK that no such demands had been made by the Russian Government, and he expressed surprise that it should have been credited in any quarter that the Russian Government had presented any demands of the kind," etc.

The game went on until, on the 25th November last, Lord LANSDOWNE asked the Russian Ambassador whether a date could not be fixed for evacuation. In reply Count BENCKENDORFF "dwelt upon the danger of giving these pledges in circumstances which, as experience had shown, rendered it not always easy to fulfil them." Lord LANSDOWNE recognised Russia's special position, but urged adherence to promises of evacuation, especially of Newchwang. On the 8th January of the present year Count BENCKENDORFF communicated a memorandum, containing a formal declaration that Russia would not interfere with the enjoyment of treaty rights by the Powers in Manchuria, and concluding thus:—"Russia considers it indispensable, independently of the conditions which will in the future definitely determine the character of her relations with Manchuria, to declare from this day forth that she has no intention whatever of placing any obstacle in the way of the continued enjoyment by foreign Powers of the rights acquired by them in virtue of the Treaties now in force." On this the Marquis of LANSDOWNE sent to Sir CHARLES SCOTT the following despatch, the last in the White Paper before us:—"The Russian Ambassador asked me for an interview to-day, and made to me a statement in the terms of the memorandum of which a copy is annexed. I expressed the satisfaction with which I had listened to his Excellency's observations, which, unless I misunderstood them, were in accordance with the assurance which he had given me on previous occasions in regard to the intentions of Russia towards Manchuria. I could not, however, help regretting that Russia should have found it impossible to take even a single step in pursuance of the policy which she has thus prescribed for herself. I trusted that his Excellency would forgive me for telling him frankly that, in this country, people were looking for some concrete evidence of Russia's intention to make good her promises. An announcement, for example, that Newchwang was to be evacuated at an

"date would certainly have a reassuring effect. So far as I was aware there was no local difficulty in the way."

The whole correspondence is a study in diplomacy. The matter is now, for the time at least, out of the hands of diplomats and must be till the present war ends. Then, as the Chairman said at the China Association meeting, it will be the duty of the Treaty Powers to see that their rights in Manchurian Treaty ports are secured and that no interference with Chinese control is permitted in the future.

TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN HONGKONG.

(*Daily Press*, 22nd March.)

In the report of Mr. E. A. IRVING, Inspector of Schools in Hongkong, which was laid on the Legislative Council table yesterday, one of the subjects to which allusion is repeatedly made is the teaching of English in the Colony's schools. It is only right that Mr. IRVING should devote considerable attention to it, for this branch of instruction is of the utmost importance in a place like Hongkong. It has often been noted that such of the natives of this part of the world as speak French or German have a much better knowledge of the language, whichever it is, than the average "English-speaking" Chinese. Partly, no doubt, this is due to the greater diffusion of English, whereby more quite illiterate natives pick up English than have a chance of getting any acquaintance with French or German. But also it cannot be denied that the French and the Germans insist on a deeper knowledge of their respective tongues than we do. The consequence is that English is the most and the worst spoken foreign language in China. The remedy for this, or a partial remedy, is a greater stress upon the teaching of English in Anglo-Chinese schools. In this direction the recent efforts of the educational authorities in this Colony have been tending. The late Committee on Education made a strong point of the difficulty of co-education of young English-speaking boys with usually older Chinese boys beginning the study of English. Sir HENRY BLAKE also expressed the opinion (which was endorsed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies) that the difficulty should be surmounted by not teaching English to Chinese boys in the same class as non-Chinese until the former have a sufficient knowledge of English to understand class teaching in that language. The new Grant-in-Aid Code, introduced here on the 1st January last as a result of the labours of the Committee on Education, works more or less on these lines, for it grants aid only to schools adopting Western methods of instruction, and where either English or Chinese is the medium of instruction. This is a sound principle, and the authorities are to be congratulated on taking steps, if late in the day, to remedy the teaching of English in Hongkong.

In his remarks on the various schools which he inspected, Mr. IRVING speaks well of the reorganised District schools with regard to instruction in English. Special attention, he says, has been paid to the improvement of the Chinese masters in the method of their teaching, especially of English. These masters, he adds, are willing and quick to learn, which is satisfactory since, if a knowledge of English is to spread rapidly, we shall have to depend on Chinese masters for the instruction of the lowest standards. The change for the better in English-speaking at his latest inspection Mr. IRVING found most promising. The senior boys now "talk courageously," and

there are evidences of thinking in English too. The Chinese girls at the Belilos Public School he also found to have made remarkable progress with their English, though not speaking so well as the boys at the District Schools who had been learning along. Of the Anglo-Chinese Grant schools there are three in the Colony, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Ellis Kadoorie, and the S. Stephen's Anglo-Chinese Schools, and all have given evidence of a desire to attach due importance to the study of spoken English. The S. Stephen's School, though under Chinese masters only, has greatly improved in the last two years. Generally speaking, we may derive considerable encouragement from Mr. IRVING's report and may venture to hope that the lapse of a few more years will see English much better spoken by the Chinese in this Colony than hitherto has been the case.

HONGKONG AND LEPROSY.

(*Daily Press*, 23rd March.)

The Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday, raised a question of more interest to the Colony than might have been gathered from the attitude taken up toward it by seven out of the eight Official Members of the Council. Mr. POLLOCK asked whether, in view of Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON's letter to the *Times* on the connection between leprosy and the eating of tainted fish (to which we have alluded in these columns several times recently), the Hongkong Government should not cause some enquiry to be made into the matter by its medical officers. Mr. POLLOCK supported his motion in an excellent speech, but failed to carry conviction to the mind of the Official majority, for only one of them voted with him and the other Unofficial Members, and by the use of his casting vote H.E. the Officer Administering the Government was able to defeat the motion. The unfavourable answer of the Government to Mr. POLLOCK, as read by the Hon. A. M. THOMSON on Monday, was based on the length of time which would be required for bacteriological examination, it being considered that the Government Bacteriologist would be better employed in investigating diseases affecting the public health of the Colony more than does leprosy. H.E. Mr. MAY himself expressed his conviction that, the Bacteriologist being the only medical official who could conduct the required examination, more of his time would be given to it than could be spared by the Colony; and the Attorney-General did not think that the question was one that could be settled by any such enquiry in this Colony. In spite of the almost unanimous weight of Official opinion against Mr. POLLOCK's proposal, we can but consider that the Government has made a mistake. After all, the motion only asked the Government to cause *some* enquiry to be made. As this motion has been rejected, apparently no enquiry of any kind will be made in Government medical circles, and the subject of the cause of leprosy will not interest Hongkong officials. Yet the question is one which affects the Colony. There are, it is true, diseases which affect Hongkong more readily. But there are, as Mr. POLLOCK pointed out, some 300,000 Chinese in the Colony and some two or three millions a year travelling to and from it. In the diet of these people cured fish figures largely; our noses tell us this every day as we move through the streets of the Colony. Moreover, though lepers rarely penetrate to the City of Victoria and are not allowed to stay here if they contract the disease, still in the New Territory there

is a considerable number of these afflicted wretches, and there is at Au-tau a leper settlement. Surely we should do more wisely in paying some slight attention to the subject of leprosy and its causes, rather than in neglecting it altogether? The question may not be one which can be settled by an enquiry in this Colony. But at least additional evidence, however slight, may be collected here which will help to fix the cause of a scourge which has been one of the worst ever known to the world and still claims countless victims in some lands. There is much leprosy in South China, and the eating of improperly cured fish, Mr. HUTCHINSON's claimed cause, is universal. Hongkong is therefore not unfavourably placed for aiding in the examination of the disease. We cannot believe that the subject is one of no importance to the Colony, as the solid voting of the Official Members of the Legislative Council on Monday would lead one to infer.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

(*Daily Press* 25th March.)

The Bill providing for the introduction of Chinese labour into the Transvaal has now become law, the House of Lords having rejected a motion to defer the introduction of Chinese until the Transvaal is granted representative government, and the Government having escaped a vote of censure in the Commons by 299 votes to 242. It may be taken, therefore, that there is no further obstacle, as far as Britain is concerned, in the way of Chinese immigration to the Rand. There is, of course, still the Chinese Government to be satisfied. At first it was stated that Peking was entirely against the scheme. It appears now, however, that this is not the case. The Chinese authorities are not opposed *in toto* to the proposed immigration of their countrymen into South Africa; but they require to be assured on certain points. What these are may be gathered from a Parliamentary paper published in London last month, containing among other documents the reply of CHANG Ta-jen, Chinese Minister in London, after receipt of a draft of the Labour Ordinance sent to him, with an enquiry whether the Ordinance was one upon which regulations acceptable to China could be framed. CHANG, after the caustic remark that, if a similar course had been taken by some of the self-governing Colonies which have passed laws offensive to the Chinese Government, much acrimonious correspondence might have been avoided, wrote to the effect that he found nothing in the draft Ordinance likely to conflict with anything he would have to propose when negotiating with regard to the protection of Chinese immigrants under Article V. of the Treaty of Peking. He suggested, however, that the Chinese Consul or Consular agent should have power to visit the mines and places of accommodation for the immigrants, and to make representations to the authorities concerning them; that no corporal punishment of the immigrants should be allowed; that the "importer" of the immigrants should be a bona-fide employer of labour, and that transfer of an immigrant should only be allowed with his consent and his Consul's approval; that repatriation should take place to the port of embarkation, not merely to country of origin, as provided in the Ordinance; and the immigration should be made only in British or Chinese ships and under British Board of Trade regulations for immigrant-ships. The Chinese Minister concludes his letter thus:—"The adoption of these suggestions by the

"authorities of the Transvaal would much contribute to render the Ordinance more acceptable to the Imperial Government of China, and to the gaining of the confidence of intending emigrants; more especially in provinces whose inhabitants have not hitherto been in the habit of emigrating to foreign countries." It is hard to dispute the reasonableness of the Chinese Minister's suggestions. The third, it should be noted, that with regard to the transfer of labourers, is stated by CHANG Ta-jen to be "necessary in order to prevent the immigrant from being made a mere chattel or article of commerce." It remains to be seen what attitude the Transvaal will take up toward China's proposals. The owners will be wise in accepting them, we think, if the introduction of Chinese labour is to become an accomplished fact. They will in acceding to China's requests do much to weaken the cry of the Opposition in the British House of Commons and in some of the constituencies about slavery. On the other hand, if they hold out for the most harrassing restrictions on the immigrants, not only do they imperil the chance of the Chinese Government's approval, but they give point to outbursts like Sir WILLIAM HARROD'S remarks about "the greatest scheme of human dumping since the Middle Passage was abolished," and furnish one more electioneering cry to distract home politics—a result which is not to the advantage of imperial politics, we need hardly say.

THE WAR.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

LONDON, 21st March.

It is reported from S. Petersburg that forty thousand Russian troops have come into contact with forty thousand Japanese troops North of Anju, and that a decisive action is expected.

LONDON, 22nd March.

Russian official despatches admit that the town of Anju has been occupied by the Japanese troops.

LONDON, 23rd March.

Viceroy Alexieff telegraphs to S. Petersburg stating that six Japanese battleships, twelve cruisers, and eight destroyers bombarded Port Arthur for the space of two hours on Tuesday morning, the 22nd inst.

[It will be noted that this telegram absolutely disposes of the story of Port Arthur's capture on the 19th inst.; and also that it shows that the Japanese battleship squadron is intact.—ED. D.P.]

TELEGRAMS.

Tokyo, 14th March.

It is learnt that the shots fired on the 10th of March numbered 120 twelve-inch. The six battleships slowly made five rounds each from each of their four twelve-inch guns, maintaining the range splendidly.

Tokyo, 15th March.

A steamer with nine Japanese killed and ten wounded has arrived at Sasebo. It has transpired that while the Russian and Japanese destroyers were at close quarters on the 10th, one Japanese bluejacket jumped into the *Stereugustchi*, and found the Russian captain just getting out of his cabin. He cut the captain's head off with his cutlass when the captain attempted to rise up, and kicked it overboard. The *Stereugustchi* and another destroyer, when surrounded by four Japanese destroyers, fought gallantly, and endeavoured vainly to open a way of escape. The remains of over twenty Russians were then recognised, the enemy's vessels being like beehives.

Tokyo, 16th March.
There is good reason to believe that the Japanese fleets are still working actively. The officers and men are completely prepared to obtain a conclusive victory. It has transpired that in the engagement at close quarters on the 10th inst., the Japanese and Russians fought by casting pieces of coal. The Japanese flag was hoisted on board the *Steregutschi* before she sank. Contrary to the experience in previous engagements, the Russians maintained what was comparatively a splendid range, but the general effect of their firing shows no apparent lack of shells.

Tokyo, 15th March.

The Cabinet yesterday decided on the establishment of the tobacco and silk monopolies, and the creation of a tax on silk, besides enhancements of the existing taxes. The sinews of war consist altogether of: first, the war taxes, amounting to over 65 million yen; 2nd, the surplus and curtailment of expenditures, amounting to about 58 millions; 3rd, public loans, including the recent issue of exchequer bonds.

Later

Regarding the public bonds referred to in the above telegram, the Cabinet will introduce a Bill at the special session of the Diet, authorising a further flotation to the extent of a hundred and fifty million yen, when necessary.—N.C.D.N.

Tsingtao, 16th March

The following news is just received here from Chemulpo:—

On the 10th inst., ten Japanese men-of-war were anchoring at Chinnampo. Twelve transports have just commenced to disembark troops. Thirty more transports were expected to bring twenty thousand men.

The American cruiser *Cincinnati* has gone to Chinnampo, in order to take on board all American missionaries from Pingyang, and the English and American mining engineers occupied in that district.

The bodies of two Russian sailors have been rescued from the *Varyag*. They were buried with full military honours, men of all men-of-war taking part in the ceremonies by the request of the Japanese.—O. Lloyd.

Either on the 16th or on the 17th inst. the Russian destroyer *Skory* was blown up while entering Port Arthur harbour. It is variously stated that she touched an unburied mine and a misplaced torpedo. Anyhow she was a total loss and only four of her crew were saved. She is a similar boat to the *Steregutschi*, which was previously lost—a 350-ton boat, 3,000 h.p., doing 26 knots and carrying one 1-pr. and three 3-pr. guns, with two torpedo-tubes.

The N.C. *Daily News* Tokyo correspondent telegraphed on the 18th inst.:—Confidential *pourparlers* have been taking place between the Ministers, the Elder Statesmen, and the party leaders in the Diet, resulting in a satisfactory understanding as to the financial programme of the war.

POR T ARTHUR.

According to the officers on the Norwegian steamers lately arrived at Shanghai from Port Arthur, all the Russian men-of-war that were slightly damaged are patched up, and the *Pallada* has been repaired in the only dock. The *Tsarevitch* and *Retvizan*, however, are too large for this dock, and it is now proposed to get them into the East Basin, fill up the entrance to the basin, and pump it out; a "large order," but pumps for the purpose have been brought from Harbin and Vladivostock. The only fear is that the sides of the basin, on which an enormous quantity of coal is stored may slip in when the water is pumped out. There is likely to be a good deal of leakage too, as there is already in the dock.

It has already been reported that one of the Japanese stone-hulks was sunk on the left side of the entrance to the harbour, close to where the *Retvizan* lay beached. The Russians have now sunk two Chinese Eastern Railway steamers the *Hailar* and *Harbin*, in a line north-eastward from the Japanese steamers in order to narrow the mouth of the harbour. Another steamer was to be sunk on the other side of the entrance, so that only a very narrow channel would be left, which is to be so protected with mines, and possibly a boom, that there may be no more fear of Japanese torpedo-boats getting into the harbour again at night. Generally it

is stated that there is plenty of food and ammunition in Port Arthur, and no apparent apprehension there that it will have to be evacuated.

NEWCHWANG.

The Peking correspondent of the *Mercury*, under date 5th March, gives the following as from a reliable source:—Newchwang is quiet. Eight war correspondents are now at that place, with no possible way of leaving except by going to Tientsin. The foreigners are coming in from the interior; most of them have already arrived at Newchwang, and the remainder will be in shortly. An European war correspondent just arrived from S. Petersburg reports seeing numerous trains bringing troops as far as Harbin, but none between Newchwang and Harbin, and very few trains are now running between the latter point and Port Arthur. It is evident that the Russians are using their trains to transport troops from Russia to points north, and mobilising at these points with the view of moving down towards Newchwang later. If, within the next ten days, the Japanese made an obstinate move and attack, they should be able to cut off Newchwang, and without a doubt become masters of that section of the country. It would then be only a matter of days before the Russians should lose all hopes of holding either Port Arthur or Newchwang. The latter expect, however, to come down from the north in such overwhelming force as to enable them to retake all lost ground.

ITEMS.

L'Echo de Chine of the 17th inst. is advised from Port Arthur that "the *Retvizan* and *Pallada* have completed their repairs. The *Tsarevitch* will be ready in a few days. Everything is quiet in town. There is no deficiency in the supply of provisions and food."

It is stated that 250 mines were sent from Harbin to Newkiateng on the 11th inst. They are intended for the Liao River, and will be laid as soon as the ice melts. The Russians brought twenty native boats to carry stones and mud to block the Liao River. The U.S. and British Consuls at Newchwang reported the matter to Peking to their respective Ministers, who sent a strong representation to the Russian Legation, and the scheme was eventually abandoned.

The *Japan Mail* says that the Russians are now reported desirous of restoring Newchwang to the status it enjoyed before they assumed military control of the place in 1900. Their reasons are that, were Newchwang once more a perfectly open settlement and therefore neutral ground, it could be largely though surreptitiously used as a basis of supply, and the danger of a Japanese landing there being also averted, the strain on Russia's slender military forces would be proportionately relaxed. The *Mail* remarks that people are not quite so foolish as to lend themselves blindfold to Russian rule.

The statement that the greater part of the Japanese shall failed to explode at the recent bombardment of Vladivostock remains to be verified. There has been much curiosity of late about the Shimo explosive, for which a rank is claimed second to blasting gelatin only in disruptive violence, and as blasting gelatin has never been brought under sufficient control to serve for artillery uses, the Shimo compound would thus stand at the head of the list.

General Kuropatkin has left Irkutsk, where 11 soldiers have recently been shot for pillaging and rape.

General Kuropatkin is to arrive at Moukden on the 26th inst. and at Liaoyang on the 28th.

With regard to the treatment of Japanese in Port Arthur, a correspondent there, writing to a friend in Shanghai on the 9th inst., says:—"The feeling against the Japanese here is frantically intense, and it would have been well for them could they have all got away before hostilities commenced. They are all considered as spies and are maltreated on the slightest pretext. As an illustration of this I will mention that companies of soldiers have been told off and instructed to seize every Chinaman they could lay their hands on and twist his queue to find out if it were real or if its owner were a Japanese spy in disguise. A dozen of the latter have been discovered and shot on the spot, their bodies being left to rot where they fell."

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 21st inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL VILLEERS HATTON, C.B. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY S. BERKELEY, Kt. (Attorney-General).

Hon. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 3), and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

PAPERS.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the reports of the Inspector of Schools and of the Acting Director of the Observatory for 1903.

FISH AND LEPROSY.

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK moved: "That, in view of the letter which was recently addressed by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., to the *Times* newspaper on the subject of leprosy being caused by tainted fish, it is desirable that the Hongkong Government should cause some enquiry to be made into the question by its Medical Officers." He said—Sir, there appeared in the issue of the *Weekly Times* of the 29th January of this year a long letter by Mr. Hutchinson which I assume that most of the hon. members of this Council will have read, dealing with the question of the prevention of leprosy. I do not of course propose to go through the whole of that letter in detail, but I will just mention, sir, one or two of the salient points with which that letter deals. The hypothesis which Mr. Hutchinson puts forward is that leprosy has been and still is due in the main to the consumption as food of decomposing or imperfectly cured fish; and he quotes, sir, various allegations in support of that hypothesis. Some of them appear to be more or less matters of theory, and he does not state the facts in support of his contention, but he does mention one or two specific facts which he submits in support of his contention that leprosy is connected with the consumption of fish, among people who live on a fish diet, by either decomposing or imperfectly cured fish.

Supporting the facts which he quotes in this letter in support of his theory, are first, that "in India those who profess vegetarianism are almost wholly free, those to whom it is a matter of indifference suffer in moderate degree, and those who observe fish-eating fast days in very remarkable excess." Mr. Hutchinson also points out that "in India, while the general prevalence is only three or four per 1,000, it rises on the Island of Minicoy, which is devoted to fishing, to 15, and in Kaligoan, which is also a fish-curing centre, to 500." He also goes on to say that "in several places (Cape Colony, the Sandwich Islands, etc.) the outbreak of leprosy followed directly on the introduction of fish-curing." Mr. Hutchinson candidly admits that this theory of his has not as yet secured the official support of the medical profession, but I think, sir, that the circumstances which are stated in his letter must lead any ordinary reader to the conclusion that he makes out a very good case for every Government, and especially a Government like the Hongkong Government, which has some of its citizens suffering from this same disease of leprosy, having it made incumbent on them to cause its medical officers to direct a very

close enquiry to be made into this subject. Now, sir, in the same issue of the *Weekly Times* there was a letter by a correspondent signing himself "N," which also supports this theory of Mr. Hutchinson's as to leprosy being connected with the consumption of fish. The correspondent "N" writes as follows:—"There is no place in the world, I have reason to know, where the disease is so common as in Cumana, in the north of Venezuela. Very large quantities of fish are occasionally caught there, and fish is the staple food of the inhabitants who are cut off by the mountains from the supply of fresh beef which is available in the central and western districts of the country. Salt is scarce, and fish is to a large extent 'sun-cured.' The climate is hot and putrefaction singularly speeding in that region. My informant is a well-known explorer and naturalist. He told me that no house in Cumana is without several leper inmates. This state of things does not exist at all up the valley of the Orinoco, where the staple food is beef, though the population and climate are exactly similar, as are the general habits of the people." I may also quote from a letter which appeared from a correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph* in the issue of that paper on Saturday last as showing that leprosy is connected with the consumption of tainted fish. This correspondent says:—"When engaged on outpost duty in one of the Shan states, I halted at a village where there was a collection of various races, and I found that leprosy was very prevalent. Being able to converse with some of the people I soon learned something about the disease. In reply to my questions, I was informed that a black fish, caught in the muddy streams, was salted and covered for three weeks after which it was eaten with tender mango leaves. This the inhabitants of the village considered a luxury. In many cases, however, the people partaking of the food were suddenly attacked with fever, they became depressed, and the skin began to bronze in patches. Subsequently these patches turned white, and the sufferer lost all sense of feeling, sort formed, and the body presented a loathsome sight." I think these extracts I have read will suffice to show there are at all events some grounds for believing that there may very likely be a connection between the consumption of decomposed fish or badly cured fish and leprosy; and I hope, sir, therefore that this Government will accede to what I have asked for in this motion of mine and will order some enquiry to be made into this question by its medical officers. Your Excellency will see that I have put it in that general way because I feel in a matter of this sort it will be for the Government to state exactly what shape in which the enquiry should be made and I did not wish to limit myself to any particular form of enquiry. What I desire to bring about is that this Council should interest itself in what seems to me to be a very important question, considering that we have some 300,000 Chinese in this Colony and having regard to the fact that we have a constant stream of Chinese travelling to and from this Colony, amounting to some two or three millions of persons a year. I hope that one of my unofficial colleagues will second this motion.

Hon. Sir PAUL CHATER seconded.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—Such an enquiry as is indicated involves protracted bacteriological investigation. Leprosy is not a disease that is prevalent in the Colony and it is considered that the time of the Government Bacteriologist will be better employed in prosecuting investigations into diseases which more readily affect the public health of the Colony. As far as present scientific knowledge goes the bacillus leprae does not grow outside the living human body. For these reasons the Government oppose the resolution.

H.E. THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT—I might say that I made particular enquiries at the Government Bacteriologist, who is the only man who could conduct such an investigation, and I am satisfied that a great deal more of his time would be given to it than can really be spared by the Colony.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I think hon members must see that this is a question which could not be settled by any such enquiry in this Colony.

On a division there voted for the motion:—Hon. Messrs. Stewart, Dickson, Pollock, Wei Yuk, Ho Kai, Sir Paul Chater and the Harbour Master (7); and against the motion the Registrar-General, the Director of Public Works, the Acting Colonial Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Acting Colonial Secretary, the General Officer Commanding and the Officer Administering the Government (7).

H.E. THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT gave his casting vote against the motion and it was therefore lost.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS.

Hon. Mr. POLLCK also moved "That it is desirable that the replies to questions which are put by Unofficial Members of Council should be published in the *Gazette* in addition to the questions themselves. He said—Your Excellency, it has been the practice, I think for some time past, that the questions which are put by hon. unofficial members should be published in the *Government Gazette*. The questions are put *in extenso*, sometimes occupying about half a page of the *Government Gazette*, and the only information which is vouchsafed as to the answers is something like this:—"The Hon. Colonial Secretary replied." Well, Sir, I think that such information is so brief indeed as hardly to be satisfying to the public. Of course I am aware that the answers to the questions are published in the local Press, but it seems to me, sir, that it would be a good thing as well that they should be published in the *Government Gazette* which is of course the official newspaper published by the Government of this Colony. It seems indeed, one might say, almost absurd that the questions should be published in full detail and yet that the answers should be of the nature I have stated. I think, sir, that the *Government Gazette* being the official newspaper of this Colony published under authority should publish not merely the questions as has been done for some time past but also the answers which are given to these questions. Then, sir, they will be on record in the official newspaper.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART seconded.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY replied.—The answers are recorded in *Hansard*. The present practice is correct. Therefore Government must oppose the resolution.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The question as it appears on the paper will appear to be reasonable enough, but the fact is the hon. member has worded his motion in a manner which is not altogether justifiable. It really obscures the real question before the house. I myself was misled by the way in which the motion had been framed: until almost a few minutes ago I was under the impression that it was something other than it is. As the question reads it would appear there is some publication in the *Government Gazette* of questions put in this house, the answers to which had been given but which were not published when the questions were published. What really happens is this. What appears in the *Government Gazette* is not the publication of the questions put in the house but it is the publication of the minutes of this house, the minutes of the proceedings of the Council; and they are printed in the *Government Gazette* as they are taken in this house. Now, according to the practice that has been followed in this Council for years past, and according to the practice, as I understand it, in all legislative bodies it is not customary to record in the minutes replies to question *litteratim et verbatim*. The question has to appear in the minutes because it is sent in as a notice of a proceeding about to take place but when the question has been put the mere fact that the question was put by Mr. _____ and Mr. _____ replies to it is published, but the answer is not put in; and hon. members will see at once that it would be impossible to keep the minutes within anything like reasonable dimensions if the answers were given.

Take a parallel case. We find in the minutes the fact noted that, say, the Attorney-General introduced and read for the first time or moved the second reading of a Bill to do so and so. But the detail of the Bill is not given. Again we find in the minutes a note is made of the fact that certain amendments were made but the objections are not put

down. The minute is merely a short statement of what takes place in the house and it would not be right to put the answers in. Everything that is said fully by way of answer to any question appears first of all in the daily papers and subsequently in *Hansard*; and *Hansard*, I may say, is a revised version of the *Daily Press* report; therefore members are not for a single moment in the dark as to the replies to any questions that are put. Therefore there is no reason to do what the hon. member asks to be done.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Sir, I ask leave to say a few words in reply to what has fallen from the hon. Attorney-General. I submit in the first place his case which he put of a Bill is not a parallel case, because as every hon. member knows the Bill is published *in extenso* in the *Government Gazette*, and not merely the Bill with all marginal notes but also the objects and reasons which have induced the framer of the Bill to bring it forward. I would submit that as regards the publication of the minutes of this Council in the *Government Gazette* there is absolutely no reason, if it is found necessary in that publication to publish the questions, why the answers should not be published. It seems to me the logical sequence, if it is thought the questions are of sufficient importance to publish them in the *Government Gazette*, that it is equally important that the answers should be published.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The questions form part of the minutes.

Hon. Mr. POLLCK—But surely the answers are of equal importance with the question. I recognise that *Hansard* is the official publication but I think *Hansard* is not so readily accessible to most people as the *Government Gazette* is. One knows that the *Government Gazette* is not only available by those who take it personally in their offices but in such places as the Hongkong Club and probably any other clubs in this Colony; and it is more or less an available and accessible publication; and I think *Hansard* is not nearly so available as it is.

H.E. Mr. MAY—I would like to mention one point not mentioned by the Attorney-General and that is that motions and resolutions are exactly in the same category as questions. If you had the answers to questions incorporated in the minutes, by a parity of reasoning you would have to have the speeches in reply to motions and in reply to resolutions also published in the minutes. It is evident therefore that the minutes would be swelled to enormous bulk. The minutes of this Council as drawn at present are found on close investigation into the matter some time ago to be absolutely correct; and I see no special reasons for departing from a method which is correct to one which would not be correct.

On a division there voted for the motion Hon. Messrs. Stewart, Dickson, Pollock, Ho Kai, Wei Yuk and Sir Paul Chater (4) and against the motion the Harbour Master, the Registrar-General, the Director of Public Works, the Acting Colonial Treasurer, the Attorney-General, the Colonial Secretary and the General Officer Commanding (7).

The motion was lost.

SCAVENGING AND LIGHTING OF STREETS.

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART asked the following questions:—

1. Will the Government take into consideration the advisability of improving as far as possible the present means of maintaining and scavenging the public roads, as these are often very unsightly from pieces of paper, banana-skins, and chewed sugar-cane lying about?
2. In view of the heavy fogs and the difficulties and dangers of transport on the Peak roads at night, will the Government take into consideration some scheme for lighting the roads after dark, either by gas, or by strong oil lamps, such as the Kitson light, and prepare an estimate of the cost?

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY replied—

1. Under No. 2 of the conditions of the Scavenging Contract the contractor must "twice daily sweep and cleanse the surface of all the public and private streets and roads with their foot-paths, side channels and steps, and also all courts, lanes, alleys, and passages within the City of Victoria." It would not be possible

to sweep the streets more frequently without causing some inconvenience and complaints have been recently received concerning the nuisance caused in the busy parts of the City by the streets being swept between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. when many persons cross the streets to and from their offices. Professor Simpson at page 112 of his final report states "The general scavenging of the streets is the best in the East, and is remarkably good considering the conditions under which it has to be carried out." The attention of the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police has been drawn to nuisances caused by hawkers and others in throwing rubbish on the streets.

2. Government is not prepared to consider the question of lighting the Peak District at present owing to the considerable expense involved after deducting the revenue derived from the usual increase of rates.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, No. 18 of 1900. He said - The object of this Bill is to enlarge the numbers of the Land Court, and to give each member sitting alone the power to decide matters brought before him. The Bill will, it is believed, enable the work of settling titles in the New Territory to be got through with that desired rapidity which owing to the enormous amount of work to be done hitherto could not be achieved.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee and considered the Bill *sicutum*.

No amendments were made.

On the Council resuming,

The Bill was read a third time and passed on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SUGAR CONVENTION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to enable effect to be given in this Colony to a Convention signed the fifth day of March nineteen hundred and two in relation to sugar. He said - In asking that this Bill be read a second time it is hardly necessary to say anything, as from the title of the Bill hon. members will see what the principle involved in the Bill is. Hon. members are aware that comparatively recently after many years of attempts in that direction a number of the Great Powers of Europe have agreed on certain terms in a Convention for the object of putting an end to what is known as the unfair bounty system with regard to sugar. The agreements have been arrived at by the Convention and the object of this Ordinance is to give effect as far as this portion of His Majesty's dominions goes to that Convention and agreement. The Bill is short and provides for whatever may be necessary for the purpose of giving effect to the agreement to which His Majesty's Government have come under the Convention with other countries. The Governor in Council may from time to time when necessary make such rules and regulations as are required. That seems to me to be the most efficient and best way in which we could deal with the matter. It is impossible for us just now to embody in the Bill the various provisions which may from time to time be found necessary to adopt. In adopting this mode of legislation - namely a Bill giving authority to another body to pass rules and regulations - the example of the mother country has been followed. There an Act has been passed by which authority is given to the proper authorities, the King in Council, to pass such regulations, as may from time to time become necessary. In fact, it may be said that this Bill now before the Council is an adaptation of the Act of the Imperial Parliament recently passed for that purpose. I move that the Bill be read a second time.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The Bill was left in the Committee stage till next meeting.

The Council adjourned till next Monday at 3 p.m.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 24th inst. in the Board Room. Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. W. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Mr. Lau Chn Pak, Mr. Fung Wa Chiu; Colonel W. E. Webb, A.M.C.; Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Mr. E. A. Hewett; Mr. A. Rumjahn; Dr. W. W. Pearce, Medical Officer of Health; Dr. B. Barnett, Assistant Medical Officer of Health; Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary) and Mr. T. A. Hanmer (Assistant Secretary).

A MOTION.

The PRESIDENT, pursuant to notice, moved:— That the Board, under the provision of Section 30 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, depute Inspector Thomas Abley to institute summary proceedings before a Magistrate against any person contravening any of the Bye-laws duly made under Section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, when so instructed in writing by one of the Medical Officers of Health. That the Board, under the provisions of Section 256 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance 1903, depute Inspector Thomas Abley to institute summary proceedings before a Magistrate for the recovery of any penalty imposed by Part II. of the said Ordinance or any Bye-law made thereunder when so instructed in writing by one of the Medical Officers of Health.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

OPEN-WORK CEILINGS.

Dr. Barnett, in a minute, suggested that open-work ceilings under 122 of Ord. 1 of 1903 be not allowed in future. Lattice-work ceilings were not much better than closed ones, although they were better. The amount of dirt collected by an open-work ceiling was extraordinary, and they also often formed a harbour for rats.

Mr. E. A. Hewett minuted:—So far as I remember it, "old custom" alone justifies a lattice ceiling.

Mr. A. Rumjahn minuted:—Quite right; I agree with the Assistant M. O. H.

Col. Webb, R.A.M.C., minuted:—Have rats ever been found in open-work ceilings?

Hon. Registrar-General minuted:—What is the use of a lattice-work ceiling?

Hon. D.P.W. minuted:—That is a matter within the direction of the B.A., but it will be useful to have the opinion of the Board on the subject. Some applicants plead strongly for ceilings to be allowed in their premises, and, in a few cases, I have allowed them on condition that they were of open construction—carved or lattice.

Dr. BARNETT stated that he remembered a rat being caught in Queen's Road, about No. 150, in the same place at which this question of the ceilings had again cropped up. Even if rats were not found there they went there when pursued.

MR. LAU CHU PAK held that lattice-work provided no hiding place for rats.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that in superior Chinese houses the occupants objected to the somewhat unsightly appearance that the under side of the floor presented when these houses were built without ceilings. It was for that reason that he had granted them permission to erect these ceilings. He could not see that they could afford a very great harbour for rats. It lay between this form of ceiling and the ordinary form. He did not think it would be fair to these people to refuse them a ceiling altogether when they were allowed in European houses on the outskirts of the city.

Dr. BARNETT mentioned that the ceilings in Beaconsfield Arcade had all been pulled down by order of the Board. Hon. Gershom Stewart told him the other day that since then there had been no rats. The dirt that collected in this lattice-work was as great as that in an ordinary ceiling. The jointing was generally defective, and an enormous quantity of dirt came down between the boards and collected on the ceiling. Of this a great deal was organic matter, and it must be very unhealthy.

Dr. PEARSE did not think there was much to choose between a lattice work and a solid ceiling

as a hiding-place for rats or for the collection of dust. Before any ceiling was allowed a special point should be made that the construction was such as to make it impossible for rats to make their way through hollow walls into the space between the ceiling and the joists.

The PRESIDENT moved that the Board recommend, from a sanitary point of view, that the ceilings be permitted as seldom as possible.

The motion was agreed to.

HOUSE DRAINS.

The Hon. W. Chatham, in a letter to the Sanitary Surveyor, asked whether, in the case of house drains, he was fixing intercepting traps in cases where they could be fixed, or not. If not, the ventilating pipe would act as a ventilator for the main sewer, which was in accordance with Mr. Chadwick's ideas on the subject.

Mr. J. Bryan, the Sanitary Surveyor, replied that in all cases the house drains were disconnected from the public sewers, and that the ventilating pipes, fixed to house drains, ventilated those drains only.

Hon. D.P.W. minuted:—It was Mr. Chadwick's intention that the intercepting traps should be omitted. Please see pars. 76 and 77. of his report of 10-4-20. I thought this was being done.

The Sanitary Surveyor minuted:—I have received no instructions to this effect. Before such a system is adopted the recommendations contained in pars. 82 to 84 should be enforced. The drainage bye-laws would require to be altered, I think, and probably an ordinance passed to make it permissible. Many owners, no doubt, would object to have the public sewers ventilated by means of their private drains and ventilation pipes. I am of opinion that the omission of the disconnection of house drains which receive the discharges of water-closets, especially when the water-closet is situated inside the house, is likely to prove dangerous to the health of the occupants of that house.

The PRESIDENT said it might be possible to try this new method by doing away with these intercepting traps in a limited district of the town.

The VICE-PRESIDENT stated that the very reason that caused him to bring this up was that at the present time they had been reconstructing the gullies throughout the city, and as the gullies were now being trapped, whereas a large number of them were formerly left without traps, the means of ventilation had been very extensively reduced.

Mr. RUMJAHN hoped they would do away with the intercepting traps in Robinson Road. He had experimented with these and found that they were breeding-places for mosquitoes.

The PRESIDENT added that there was the further objection that the ventilating pipes might be just underneath the windows of a house. The Board should insist on the use of non-porous materials for the drains.

The VICE-PRESIDENT moved that in future in constructing house drainage work intercepting traps be omitted.

Mr. HEWETT said he was afraid that at that rate it would be 50 years before the work could be carried out.

The VICE-PRESIDENT having limited his motion to apply to only one drainage section of the city,

The PRESIDENT seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

WATER-CLOSETS.

A report, concerning No. 1, Wyndham Street, was sent to the Sanitary Surveyor. It stated that in the basement of the house were a water-closet and several urinals. They were in a very bad state. A good deal of water seemed to run to waste. These urinals and closet had been put in for the old Hongkong Club. The premises were now occupied by Chinese, and the urinals and W.C. were kept in a filthy state.

Messrs. E. A. Hewett and A. Rumjahn, minuted, recommended their removal.

Dr. PEARSE stated that a new restaurant was to be established where the old Hongkong Club was, and the proprietor had asked for the retention of these conveniences.

In these circumstances the discussion of the matter was postponed.

A recommendation was laid before the board to the effect that additional latrine accommodation should be provided for the Tai Ping Theatre. At present there were five

seats. At intervals there would be probably 50 people living on the premises, and the theatre held about 2,500 persons. It was recommended that the Board should require an additional latrine of six seats.

The PRESIDENT moved the approval of the recommendation.

Mr. HEWETT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

A CONTRACTOR.

Yeung Yat, contractor, requested that his name be added to the list of authorised drainage-contractors.

The application was granted.

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.

The Green Island Cement Co. asked permission to build a well on their premises at Kowloon. The well would be well away from any building; 16ft. deep, 10ft. wide, built in granite, and the wall carried three feet above the ground. They desired the well partly to tap a spring which gave them some trouble, and partly to increase their supply of water for manufacturing purposes, which supply ran rather low in the dry season. The well would be entirely closed and the water only used for manufacturing purposes.

The PRESIDENT moved that the permission sought be given.

COLONEL WEBB seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

LIME-WASHING.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK minuted:—I should like to know if the people are still being prosecuted for not lime-washing their back-yards beyond the joists of the ground floor.

The PRESIDENT stated that according to the Board's decision instructions had been issued to limewash only up to the joists.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK said that people were complaining that the inspectors insisted upon the lime-washing of the back-yards.

Dr. PEARSE.—That is a mistake then.

The PRESIDENT.—If you let us have the addresses we will make enquiries.

BABIES AT HANOI.

The PRESIDENT stated that in consequence of enquiries made a report had been received a few days ago that rabies existed at Hanoi, three cases having occurred within a month. He moved that the Government be recommended to make regulations prohibiting the landing of dogs from Hanoi for six months.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WANCHAI MARKET.

A minute by the Registrar-General recommending the classification of the stalls in Wanchai Market was approved.

THE SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN, at the conclusion of the formal business, said he wished to make a few remarks regarding the secretary of the Board (Mr. G. A. Woodcock) on the eve of his departure for England. Mr. Woodcock had served the Board conscientiously and satisfactorily for the past four years, and in spite of the fact that the work of his office had multiplied itself from year to year he had carried it through to the greatest satisfaction of the public. He was sure he simply echoed the feelings of the members when he wished Mr. Woodcock and his family *bon voyage* home and that they would return to the Colony in the best of health. (Applause.)

Mr. WOODCOCK.—Thank you.

The Board afterwards sat in private.

The Nippon points out that the Japan-Russia negotiations and war have had strange dealings with the figure seven, sufficiently strange to make the superstitious talk. In the first place the current year is the 37th year of Meiji; seven professors presented a memorial advocating war; on the 7th February it became known that diplomatic relations were broken off; in the first attack on Port Arthur seven Russian war-ships were damaged; seventy-seven men went on the famous blocking expedition; the encounter on land took place outside the "Seven Star Gate" at Pingyang; and finally the number of war-ships which attacked Vladivostock was seven. This, remarks the *Kobe Chronicle*, will go to increase the faith of those who believe that the Japanese are descendants of the lost tribes of Israel, for the number seven was sacred among the Hebrews.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held in the Chamber Room, City Hall, on Tuesday, 8th instant, at 3.45 p.m. Present:—Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. D. R. Low (Vice-Chairman), Hon. C. W. Dickson, Messrs. A. Haupt, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. R. Tomkins, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood, and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

NEW MEMBER OF COMMITTEE.

The Chairman took the opportunity of expressing the pleasure it gave to the Committee to have Mr. A. Haupt rejoin them on his return to the Colony. Mr. A. Haupt thanked the Chairman for his good wishes.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th ult. were read and confirmed.

HEALTH OFFICER OF THE PORT.

The following correspondence was laid on the table:—

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PASSENGERS.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 20th January, 1904.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that at a recent meeting of the Committee of this Chamber the question of Medical Examination of steamers arriving in Hongkong Harbour was discussed, and it was unanimously decided to address the Government on the subject, pointing out the grave necessity which exists for a thorough reform being effected in the system at present in force.

I would beg to remind you that in 1897, and again in 1901, this Chamber brought to the notice of the Government the desirability of the appointment of Health Officer of the Port being filled by an official whose undivided attendance would be devoted to the duties of the position, and as a result of the representations then placed before His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henry Blake made the following recommendations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

(a) The appointment of a second Health Officer of the Port, who will be allowed no private practice of any kind:

(b) That in view of Dr. Jordan's long service as Health Officer of the Port His Excellency recommended that he should be allowed to retain his private practice on shore only on the distinct understanding that when himself engaged in private practice he will always place at the disposal of this Government another officer as his substitute to discharge the duties of Health Officer of the Port, and who will not take private practice on board ships.

(c) His Excellency further recommended that, if Dr. Jordan was not willing to accept these conditions, another Health Officer of the Port should be appointed in his place on the same terms as those offered to the second Health Officer of the Port.

The Committee of the Chamber at that time expressed the opinion that the above recommendations, if carried into effect, would, they hoped, put an end to the delays in the inspection of vessels that had occurred in the past, and therefore agreed to His Excellency's suggestions.

After giving the new system a fair trial, however, my Committee regret that it is necessary to again draw the attention of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to the inconvenience and loss suffered by the large shipping interests of this Colony through the new arrangement not having produced the anticipated result.

In consequence of the Health Officer of the Port and his deputy being engaged with their private practice in various parts of the City, it not infrequently happens that when their official services are required they are inaccessible. Dr. Keyt is thus often the only Officer available to attend the ships coming into the harbour, with the result that delays are of frequent occurrence.

Further, when a vessel is visited by Dr. Keyt and a suspicious case of sickness is reported on board, that Officer states that he must refer the matter to his superior, and my Committee fully understand this must be so, as, in his capacity as a subordinate, he cannot be expected

to give a definite decision, not being vested with full authority, which can only be wielded by the recognised Health Officer of the Port. Considerable time is thus not infrequently lost in connecting with the Health Officer, and it then happens that further delays take place, in consequence of his private engagements, before that officer is able to visit the vessel in question.

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the work has increased of late years, and ships constantly enter the harbour simultaneously at both entrances, and I would beg to remind you that the number of ocean-going steamers alone which entered the harbour during the year 1902 amounted to over 4,000, or an average of 11 per diem, many of these being coasting vessels and other small craft which do not as a rule carry a doctor as a member of their crew.

In addition to the above there is a considerable number of sailing vessels also visiting the port, while the number of steamers engaged in the river trade has of late years increased very greatly, there being upwards of 2,000 arrivals in 1902.

My Committee therefore consider that the constant employment of two Officers whose whole time is devoted to official inspection of vessels is an absolute necessity. The extra cost by reason of such a change would not be very great and would be fully justified by the gain to the Colony at large. The income derived from permits to work cargo on Sundays still maintains a high level of over \$44,000 per annum and would meet any extra expenditure under this heading, in addition to which the general revenue under the heads of Bills of Health and Medical Examination of coolies amounts to a further sum of about \$36,000 per annum.

My Committee would most respectfully urge upon His Excellency that in view of the very great importance of the shipping trade of the Port, which now ranks third in the British Empire, the post of Health Officer of the Port should be held by a Government Official (with a qualified Assistant) who should not be allowed any private practice, which rule prevails in all large ports, such as Bombay and Calcutta.

In conclusion I am instructed to add that the leading shipping firms are strongly of opinion that the present state of affairs is impossible, and that it is imperative an entire reform of the medical inspection of shipping should be carried out on the lines above indicated with the least possible delay. The Committee of this Chamber trust, therefore, that His Excellency will give a favourable consideration to their request.—I have, &c..

A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

Hon. A. M. Thomson,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 24th Feb., 1904.

SIR.—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo regarding the system in force for the medical examination of vessels arriving at this Port, and in reply to inform you that the suggestions of the Chamber have received the careful consideration of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, who regrets that he cannot see his way to carry them into effect.

2. I am to point out that under the present arrangement there is always one medical officer available for duty afloat, while another (either the Health Officer or his assistant) is at Dr. Jordan's office to sign Bills of Health. A misunderstanding seems to exist with regard to Dr. Keyt's position: Dr. Keyt has full power to act on his own responsibility and is in no way bound to refer the final decision of a case to his senior officer. It is probable that cases may arise when it is impossible for Dr. Keyt, as it might be for any medical officer, to diagnose a case at first sight, and in each circumstances it is advisable for him, in the public interest, to call in extra assistance.

3. Since Dr. Keyt has become familiar with the work of the port, no complaints have reached this Government, and His Excellency does not propose, therefore, to disturb an arrangement whereby the Government practically secures the services of three Health Officers for the port instead of two, as provided in the

[March 26, 1904.]

establishment of the Colony.—I have, etc.
A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman said the Committee would doubtless regret the inability of H. E. the Officer Administering the Government to carry out the Chamber's wishes, as the shipping community were strongly of opinion that it would be better to have two officers whose whole time was devoted to the Government Harbour work instead of as at present, three, two of whom were for the better part of the day engaged in private practice.

It was decided again to address the Government on the subject.

EXPLOSIVES ON BOARD STEAMERS IN THE HARBOUR.

The following letter was read:

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 13th February, 1904.

SIR.—In reply to your letter of 26th ultimo suggesting that vessels should be permitted to carry certain quantities of arms and ammunition without being compelled to fly the red flag and lie in the special anchorage. I am directed to point out that during the two months following December 4th last it was not found necessary to resort to the provisions of the regulations which then came into force, while there has been one case of the arrival of a steamer carrying ammunition without the knowledge of the master. I am further to point out that the police and the boarding officers can both grant exemption. For these reasons it is unlikely that such difficulties will arise in practice as the Chamber seems to anticipate, and therefore I am to inform you that the Government is unable to make any further concession at present.—I have, &c.

A. M. THOMSON, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman said that the letter left the matter in the same position as before. The outcome of the whole correspondence had not been without gain, but the concessions obtained were dependent on the Harbour Office officials promptly meeting incoming steamers (carrying only small quantities of dangerous goods) in order to prevent delay occurring.

DECIMAL SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
Correspondence between the Decimal Association and the Chamber was read relating to the Bill for the adoption of the Metric System of Weights and Measures now before the Home Parliament. The Committee having unanimously resolved in 1902 to support the compulsory adoption of the Decimal System of Weights and Measures throughout the Empire, and this decision having been communicated by the Hongkong Government to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, it was felt that nothing further could be done to further the proposal at present.

DATING OF NEW YORK TELEGRAMS.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with the decision come to at the last Meeting a letter had since been despatched to the New York Chamber of Commerce supporting the representations of the Shanghai Chamber regarding the non-dating of cables from America by the Commercial Cable Company.

OPENING OF KONGMOON TO FOREIGN TRADE.

The following letter was read:

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 5th March, 1904.

SIR.—I am directed to inform you that the port of Kongmoon will be opened to trade on the 7th instant. Mr. Fox is about to proceed thither to transact all necessary preliminary business and will remain there until the arrival of Mr. E. T. C. Werner, who has been appointed to officiate as Consular Agent for the present.—I have, etc.,

(Sd.) A. M. THOMSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman said it was satisfactory to know that after the many representations that had been made from time to time by the Chamber, Kongmoon had now been opened to foreign trade. He was afraid that there were still certain difficulties in the way before the advantages of the port could be fully availed of by merchants and river steamer-owners, and it might be necessary to make further representations to H.M. Minister at Peking on the subject.

MISUSE OF CHOPS BY COMPRADORES.

The following letter was read:—
Hongkong, 5th March, 1904.
The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

DEAR SIR.—Instances have occurred for some time past of misuse by compradores in European employ of chops bearing the firm's Chinese characters, which chops are understood to be used only in connection with the firm's business. As this may lead to serious trouble and possible heavy loss to foreign firms, who by reason of their dealing with native hongs, are under the almost absolute necessity of employing compradores in such business, we would ask you to bring this matter before your Committee, so that we may elicit their opinion as to the responsibility foreign firms are under in this connection. If firms allowing the use of chops to compradores are to be held liable for those chops and/or signatures, it leaves the door open to infinite speculation on the part of compradores and their staffs, at the risk of the firm, and no practicable security could be given large enough to guard against such risk. As far as we can learn no case has come up in court to test this matter, which is of serious moment, and the sooner it is decided the better for the trade generally.

We have no wish to cast any reflection on compradores as a class, for they are undoubtedly able and respectable men, but as a rule their office system might be improved, and less license given to subordinates in the use of chops, and even the best of compradores ought not to have too much latitude.—We are, dear Sir, Your faithfully,

(Sd) ALEX. ROSS & CO.

After some discussion it was decided that though the Chamber was not competent to give a local opinion in the matter it was considered by the Members of the Committee that contracts between Chinese hongs and foreign firms were not binding on the firms unless signed by them, and that the mere chopping of the contract by the compradore was not sufficient.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT HONGKONG.

LAST RESPECTS TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

A memorial service in commemoration of His late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Honorary Colonel-in-Chief to the Forces, was held at St. John's Cathedral on the 22nd inst. Proceedings were commenced at 9 o'clock, the Rev. P. Jenkins, Acting Army Chaplain, officiating. The service was a most impressive one, the building being well filled with uniforms? Those present included His Excellency Mr. F. H. May (Officer Administering the Government), Mr. F. Ponsonby (private secretary to H.E.), Capt. Hurley (A.D.C. to H.E.), Rear-Admiral Hon. Curzon Howe, His Excellency Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief Sir G. Noel, Admiral Von Prittwitz, Capt. Borea (Italian Navy), and four officers, His Excellency Major-General Sir Villiers Hatton (General Officer Commanding), Rear-Admiral Foote, Commander Dickens, Flag-Capt. Hon. F. Stopford (H.M.S. *Alacrity*), Col. W. E. Webb (Principal Medical Officer), Capt. Tudor (H.M.S. *Cressy*), Capt. Windham (H.M.S. *Amphitrite*), the C.S.O., Major French, Flag-Commander Bentick, Flag-Capt. F. Leemantle (H.M.S. *Albion*), Col. Ferrier (C.P.M.), Major A. A. Chichester (D.A.Q.M.G.), Col. Brown and officers of Royal Engineers, Major Bunny, Lieut.-Col. Watts and officers of 1st Sherwood Foresters, Col. Webb and officers of Royal Army Medical Corps, Col. Ferrier and officers of Army Pay Department, representatives of the H.K.V.C., Lieut.-Col. Kent and officers of the Royal Artillery, Lieut.-Col. Birdwood and officers of 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, Lieut.-Col. Iremonger and officers of 93rd Burma Infantry, Major Caulfield and officers of 114th Mahrattas, and members of the Legislative Council, including the Honourables Sir Paul Chater, Wei Yuk, Ho Kai, Gershon Stewart, and Sir W. M. Goodman (Chief Justice). Seats were reserved for officers' wives in the North Transept. Several foreign Consuls, including Senhor A. G. Romano (Portugal), M. Gaston Liebert (France), Mr. M. Noma (Japan), Chev. G. Volpicelli (Italy), and Dr.

Otto Gamperecht (Germany), also attended. After the singing of the National Anthem, at the conclusion of the service, the troops fell in, preparatory to marching off. The arrangements, which were made by the military, were as good as they could be.

His Majesty's ships in harbour half-masted their flags yesterday. The flagships *Alacrity* and *Albion* fired 31 minute guns in succession, commencing at 1 a.m.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG IN 1903.

At the Legislative Council on Monday afternoon there was laid on the table the report for 1903 of the Inspector of Schools (Mr. E. A. Irving). We make the following extracts:—

STAFF.

Mr. W. H. Williams took up his appointment as Head Master of the Sa-ying-pun District School in January. Mr. C. Curwen was appointed Headmaster of the Yau-mati District School in March. Miss Colecut resigned her appointment of Second Mistress at the Kowloon School in May. After several changes Mrs. Hatwell was appointed in July.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Many steps have been taken during the year under review to give effect to the general recommendations of the Committee on Education. A Sub-Committee of the Governing Body of Queen's College was appointed to draw up a course of study for the Chinese Classes in the College. The same course has been adopted in the Anglo-Chinese District Schools; and in most of the Anglo-Chinese and Vernacular Grant Schools a similar course is now being followed. Further reference to this course is made under "Grant Schools" below. A Committee was appointed to consider the possibility of holding regular examinations for the senior classes in History and Geography under the auspices of the Oxford Local Delegacy. The report of this Committee is now in the hands of the Government. The Committee on Education drew attention to the difficulties attendant on the co-education of young English speaking children with Chinese boys who are beginning the study of English, and finally the following dictum of the late Governor, Sir Henry Blake, received the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—"In my opinion the difficulty may be surmounted by arranging that Chinese boys shall not be taught English in the same Class as non-Chinese boys, until it is found that they have acquired a sufficient knowledge of English to understand the teaching given to the class in that language. This will prevent the English boys being retarded, without violating the principle that education shall be given equally and indiscriminately to all races."

THE GRANT CODE.

One of the most important changes recommended by the Committee on Education was the substitution of a new Code for the existing Grant-in-Aid Code. Accordingly the present Grant Code was drafted at the beginning of the year. I met the Managers of the schools several times, and discussed its provisions fully with them. I am indebted to their criticisms for several beneficial amendments. In its final form the draft Code was circulated among Managers and met with general approval. It came into force on the 1st January, 1904; but Managers who cared to do so were permitted to bring their schools under it from the 1st July, 1903, and about one-half of them, including the Managers of S. Joseph's, the Italian Convent, the Diocesan School for Girls, and most of the London Missionary Society's schools and the American Baptist Mission's schools, elected to do so.

KOWLOON SCHOOL.

The Kowloon School for European British subjects has now been open for nearly two years. The attendance during 1903 averaged 46.4 as compared with 39.3 in 1902, an increase of 18 per cent. The greatest number of scholars present on one day was 58. Mr. James in his report complains with reason of the irregularity of attendance. This irregularity seems inherent in the schools of the Colony, and is much to be regretted. The revenue collected under fees amounted to \$1,854.50 as against

\$924 in 1902 (8 months). During the first six months of the year I visited the school every fortnight, and less frequently during the latter half of the year. As regard discipline and organisation, I have nothing to say but praise. I think it would be hard to find anywhere a brighter or better ordered school. As regards the curriculum, I am not yet prepared to give a final opinion. It will be another year or two before the results of the very solid and practical course of study are fully seen. I should add that I have made no suggestions as to the curriculum which Mr. James has not adopted. I shall report more fully on the school work at the end of the school-year in July.

The following new features were introduced in the course of the year:—(a.) Towards the close of the year a Committee was appointed by the late Governor to consider the question of religious instruction. This Committee recommended that Biblical instruction should form part of the school curriculum. Scripture history will therefore form part of next year's syllabus. (b.) The celebration of Empire Day.—The school met at the usual time, and after listening to an address from the Headmaster, sang the national anthem, and was then given a whole holiday. (c.) The national anthem is regularly sung by the whole school before dismissal on the last day of each week. (d.) The school is drilled by a military Drill Instructor once a week. (e.) A dancing-class is held on Saturdays. (f.) The infants have been taught paper-folding, which will be followed by clay-modelling, as soon as the necessary materials arrive from England. (g.) Practical chemistry and brush-work are being taught in the Fourth Form. (h.) The addition to the Staff of a pupil-teacher.

BELLIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

I drew attention last year to a falling off in the number of attendances, which I attributed partly to the doubling of the fees charged in the latter half of 1901, and partly to the competition of other schools. In 1903 the average number of enrolments was 224 as against 342 in 1900.

Though the decrease in numbers appears to have stopped it has only done so owing to a new demand which the school is satisfying for the time being. In 1900 4 per cent. of the scholars were Indian boys under eleven years of age in the Preparatory School. In 1903 they had increased to over 9 per cent. At least another 11 per cent. are Eurasian or Asiatic boys other than Chinese. There appears to be need of a school for these boys; and I am glad to report that temporary arrangements have been made, through the liberality of a member of the Indian community, by which a Grant School will at once be opened for them.

THE DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

These schools were entirely re-organised at the beginning of the year. Special attention has been paid to the improvement of the Chinese masters in the method of their teaching, especially in the method of teaching English.

NORMAL CLASS.

A Normal class has already done much to improve their knowledge of the science of teaching. The fees paid by the scholars have gradually been raised, till now \$2 a month is paid by new boys, and \$1 a month by the scholars already in attendance. At Yaumati, fees were charged from the middle of the year only. The total of fees collected was \$1,507.50, compared with \$152.50 in 1902, and nil in 1901. Attendances have as usual been extremely irregular. The average number in attendance at the three schools combined was 265 (Saiyung-pun 95, Yaumati 74, Wanchai 96). The schools were well equipped during the year with books and apparatus ordered from England: but as these did not arrive till the latter part of the year, and as some time was inevitably taken up with arranging the curriculum accordingly, the schools upon their reconstructed basis can hardly be said to have been working for more than six months.

GRANT SCHOOLS.

The Grant Code was adopted by some schools at the beginning of July, but I am not yet able to report definitely as to its effect. The Italian Convent and one or two other Roman Catholic Schools drew up what appear to be very sound courses of study under the provisions of the Code, and will, I feel sure, be materially improved by them. Of the Anglo-

Chinese Schools, three at least—the Roman Catholic Cathedral School, the Ellis-Kadoorie School, and the S. Stephen's Anglo-Chinese School—have given evidence of a desire to attach due importance to the study of spoken English. The last is an encouraging example of a well-conducted school under Chinese masters only. It has greatly improved in the last two years. The Vernacular Schools have on the whole greatly improved in the last two years. This improvement is naturally most easily detected in those which elected to come under the new Code at once, and which were thus freed from a hard-and-fast course of study. The schools under the management of the Rev. H. R. Wells, of the London Mission, show great promise.

HONGKONG OBSERVATORY IN 1903.

Mr. F. G. Figg, the Acting Director of the Observatory, says in his annual report that the results of the daily weather forecasts have been:—Success, 58 per cent., partial success 34 per cent., partial failure 7 per cent., failure 1 per cent. Following the method used in meteorological offices and taking the sum of total and partial success as a measure of success, and the sum of total and partial failure as a measure of failure, it follows that 92 per cent. of the weather forecasts were successful in 1903. The China Coast Meteorological Register was printed every morning at the Observatory, and information regarding storms was telegraphed to Hongkong and exhibited on notice boards as often and as fully as such information could be justified by the weather telegrams received. This happened on 80 days in 1903. The red drum was hoisted 8 times, the red south cone 3 times, the black drum 4 times, the black south cone 3 times, the black north cone once, and the black ball twice. Two lanterns were hoisted once, and the typhoon gun fired once. Printed bulletins for general distribution were issued on 4 occasions. About 60 copies of the China Coast Meteorological Register are delivered free daily to shipping firms and others.

During 1903 in addition to meteorological registers kept at about 40 stations on shore, 1,450 ship logs have been forwarded by the captains. The total number of vessels, whose log-books have been made use of, was 186. The total number of days' observations (counting separately those made on board different ships on the same day) was 9,428.

Professors Shinjo, Otani and Yayayama, of the Imperial Japanese Geodetic Commission who were on a tour for the purpose of determining the constant of gravity and the magnetic elements at various places in the Far East, spent a fortnight at the Observatory in the spring, the magnetic hut being placed at their disposal for their work in Hongkong. In 1903 the number of transits observed was 1,067. The axis of the transit instrument was levelled 217 times, and the azimuth and collimation errors, which are less liable to variation, were determined 10 times by aid of the meridian mark. The whole of the observations have been made and reduced by Mr. J. I. Plummer, and are now ready for the press. The standard sidereal clock by Dent continues to give complete satisfaction.

NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

The Brunfelsias are a very ornamental class of flowering shrubs, natives of the West Indies and South America. Several species are represented in the gardens, three of which are now in flower. One of these is *Brunfelsia macrophylla*, a small shrub about three feet high with violet-coloured flowers nearly 2 inches in diameter. We are not quite sure that we have described the colour of the flowers correctly, as we feel certain a lady would call it heliotrope. The flowers are found at the ends of the branches in great numbers, so that the plants are very conspicuous features at the present time. The lanceolate leaves are about 4 inches long, glabrous and shining above, but glaucous underneath. Specimens may be seen in the big shrubbery in the new garden and on the bank above the Grevillea walk in the old garden.

Brunfelsia ramosissima resembles the above species in habit, but the flowers are rather darker and the leaves are elliptical and glabrous on both sides. Plants of this species may be seen growing near those of *B. macrophylla*. Both of these plants are natives of Brazil, and they have lately been reduced to *Brunfelsia calycina*.

An excellent shrub for growing in pots and flowering at this time of the year is *Viburnum tomentosum*, a native of China and Japan. The most showy part of the inflorescence is the series of large, white, sterile flowers which surround the small, yellow, fertile ones. These sterile flowers probably serve the purpose of attracting insects to the plant to aid in its fertilisation. There are several of these Viburnums to be seen around the fountain in the old garden.

The rainfall for the last week has been 2.27 inches.

NEW ENGINE-WORKS FOR HONGKONG.

MESSRS. GEO. FENWICK & CO.

It must have forcibly struck passers down Queen's Road East that, when the new reclamation scheme was completed, Messrs. Geo. Fenwick and Co., Ltd., with their large sheerlegs on the Praya, would, on account of losing their water-frontage, have to find new premises. In fact, a comment to that effect appeared in the *Daily Press* some four months ago. Those interested in the company are to be congratulated, as their representatives on the 21st inst. secured a valuable piece of Crown foreshore and sea-bed at North Point, near the Bay View Hotel, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown rent to be fixed by His Majesty's surveyor, for a further term of 75 years. The lot in question, Marine Lot No. 285, has not yet been reclaimed, but when it is the boundary measurements will be:—N.W., 400ft.; S.E. 444ft.; N.E., 522ft.; S.W., 445ft.; and contents in square feet 201,132. Under the conditions of sale the purchasers, too, are required to reclaim the whole area of the lot and public roads along the North-East and South-East boundaries, and protect the same by means of substantial sea-walls or otherwise as the Director of Public Works may approve and to his satisfaction; the whole to be completed within two years from the date of sale. The roads are to become the property of the Government on their completion and will be surfaced and channelled by the Government. Some of the conditions of sale are rather onerous, but on the other hand, permission is given the purchasers to obtain all the earth required for reclamation from Crown land in the vicinity, and labour is not expensive in these parts. The annual rent of the lot is \$2,078. The upset price being \$70,400, Messrs. Geo. Fenwick & Company's representative called \$70,600 and nobody bid against him. We are informed that the Company intend to build slipways and new engine-works.

HONGKONG ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the above society was held on the 21st March, at 5.15 p.m., at the office of the Hon. Secretary, Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., 18, Bank Buildings.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. H. Purcell, presented to the meeting a statement of accounts, of which the following is a summary:—

To printing and advertising	\$107.85
To rent of hall, etc.	287.88
To refreshments at Dr. Thomson's lecture	45.80
To shroff	10.00
To cheque-book	75
To balance in bank	73.09
<hr/>	
	\$525.87

By balance on last account, 11th April, 1902	\$257.79
By subscriptions collected	234.00
By interest to date	3.58

\$525.87

W. H. PURCELL,
Hon. Treasurer,
Hongkong, 18th March, 1904.

It was proposed, seconded, and carried that the above accounts should be passed.

In consequence of the approaching departure from Hongkong on a holiday to England of Mr. Purcell, who has been the Hon. Treasurer of the society for many years past, Mr. Newman Mumford was elected hon. treasurer for the ensuing year. Mr. Pollock was re-elected hon. secretary. He stated that it was a matter of regret that he had not been able to get more lecturers to come forward during the current winter season, but that he would try to arrange for one or two more lectures before the beginning of the summer. Since the last annual general meeting in November, 1902, the following lectures have been given:—

Dr. J. C. Thomson on "Malaria and its Relation to the Mosquito," H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., in the chair.

The Rev. Dr. Penticost on "The Chinaman, the Anglo-Saxon, and the Orient," the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., in the chair.

The Rev. Dr. Penticost, on "The Reasonableness of Christianity," Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., in the chair.

Capt. G. C. Anderson, on "The Defence of the Empire," H.E. Sir William Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., in the chair.

Mr. C. Clementi on "Buddhism," H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., in the chair.

The Rev. E. J. Hardy on "Marriage," H.E. Sir William Gascoigne in the chair.

The Hon. F. E. May, C.M.G., with "A Plea for Jewish Wit," Commodore Robinson, R.N., in the chair.

Mr. Ernest D. Haskell on "Fiscal Policy and Imperial Federation," Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., in the chair.

The Rev. E. J. Hardy on "Chinese Manners," H.E. Major-General Villiers-Hatton, C.B., in the chair.

FRONTIER NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Monday, 21st March.

RAINS.

Much rain has fallen, but the sky has now slightly cleared. Although it has rained for the best part of a week, there is very little surplus moisture in the ground; the country was in such a parched condition after the long dry winter. The hills are putting on their green spring covering in exchange for their khaki-coloured winter one, and all around can be seen the beneficial effects of the recent rain. The wild hedge-rose is blooming everywhere in profusion and filling the air with its sweet perfumes. Pear-orchards are one mass of blossom, the haunt of myriad winged creatures, including the busy bee. That uncouth-looking but serviceable animal the buffalo is now employed from sunrise till sunset in preparing the fields for the first rice-crop. Little green patches scattered throughout the valleys show where the rice for transplanting has been sown. Fields are also being prepared for the planting of canes, the roots of last year's crops being dug up and burned. Everywhere the greatest activity prevails among the farming class. I am afraid the rain came too late to benefit much the sweet potato-crop, and this is a pity, seeing the sweet potato is one of the Chinese staple articles of diet.

MOSQUITOES.

With the rain has come, the mosquitoes; and one sees in various parts of each village a "mosquito smudge" smouldering night and day giving out a thick, acrid smoke.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

The state of the country is peaceful on the whole, although attacks by armed gangs are not infrequent. Probably this state of things will never be thoroughly remedied until the British once more take over Shamchun together with Shataukok and Namtau cities. North of these places lies a range of hills, the roads through which could be easily guarded. Not so the present level frontier, with roads leading everywhere and nowhere. As long as the present frontier exists armed attacks will happen as a matter of course in spite of all exertions made on the British side of the line.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LIGHTS ON JUNKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 21st March.

SIR.—May I ask the favour of space for a few words on the carrying of lights on junks sailing out of Hongkong? The lighting of junks in general would include a very wide field, but there is, as far as I can see, no reason why some order and system should not be introduced among the local craft; and it might be expected that such having been established and understood, it would by usage act as a sort of leaven and extend more or less to the outside fleet. The Chinese junk-man at present quite acknowledges and understands the necessity of lights; but with the characteristic fatuous carelessness of his class, having provided the light it seems no manner of concern to him how it is used and where it is placed, and the many and various devices employed in the matter are the cause of much perplexity, annoyance, and danger to those charged with the navigation of steamers on the water adjacent to the Colony.

As an example, a dim light is seen low down; it looks such as might be expected on a small sampan. Nearer, the tall sail of one of the large one-masted boats that carry stone and coal lines itself out in the darkness, and it is seen that the light comes from a diminutive lantern under the bowsprit close down to the water. Again, a ghostly, nebulous glimmer, so dim that it can hardly be picked out on the surrounding blackness, turns out to be a small light carried on or in the poop of a big advancing junk, and obscured by the sail swung across in front of it. Some carry the lantern high up on one of the masts, generally the foremast, and others frankly show no light whatever, and this last is a common form among those lying at anchor, frequently in mid-channel. And therein is danger. A junk run down by a steamer in the ordinary exercise of thought means an occurrence of little consideration, a small matter, a trifle; not so always the reality—it means death. A large stone-laden junk such as is common on the route to Canton is an obstacle little less formidable than a rock, and hurling a steamer against one of them at full speed means—what? Certain destruction, of course, to the junk, with drowning of all on board, and for the steamer. River craft are of slight construction, and the probable effect would be that she would be so rent and crushed in forward by the impact that she would fill, and almost certainly entangled with the junk by her dislodged anchors and chains, beaching her would be impossible, even if time allowed, and she would probably go down in deep water. The burning of the Iroquois Theatre in Chicago gave a shock to mankind: the accompaniment of roaring, devastating flame lent a lurid picturesqueness to the horror; but the sinking of a steamer with a thousand or more helpless, distracted, uncontrollable Chinese passengers going down to death on a dark and wild night will present an effective comparison and cause somewhat of a stir throughout humanity. Fortunately, so far we have been spared such a catastrophe, but it must be borne in mind that the number of steamers is increasing on the Canton River, multiplying the risk of accidents, and there is no one engaged in the traffic who cannot recall many instances of close shaving and many a heart-jump as he escaped by a seeming miracle what looked like an inevitable and awful crash.

There appears to me no reason why some beginning of order should not be introduced into the present chaotic state of things. A paternal legislation looks after the steamers and prescribes minutely a number of things that are to be done, some useful, others not so, and it seems a feasible scheme to impose certain compulsory regulation of lights on the junks. A terse and compendious set of instructions might be drawn up in Chinese, either in pamphlet form, or in the shape of a printed sheet pasted up in some conspicuous place in the junk, couched in the infantile diction that seems best adapted for conveying instruction to the Chinese mind, explaining the reasons for exhibiting the lights and prescribing penalties for not doing so. All the junks under Harbour authority should be compelled to have a copy, a few cash

being charged them for it, in order to bring it more impressively before them, and they should be instructed to exhibit the light where it would be most visible in the direction of the approaching vessel.

There would be some consideration required in the matter of placing lights on junks, but I should say if every sailing junk was required to carry a high light forward and a low light aft, both of fair power, it would be a step in the right direction, as it would indicate the direction of a crossing junk, but the general scheme would be a matter for discussion and arrangement.

This, I opine, is a matter which might well occupy the attention of the Government and the Harbour authorities, and, as in most matters, there is no time for it like the present.—Yours etc.

CHAS. V. LLOYD.

THE OPIUM FARM QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 21st March.

SIR.—"Anti-Opium," as far as I can see, though evidently having good intentions, is a narrow-minded European who has in no way studied the opium question. When he says, "Instead of encouraging people to smoke, the Hongkong Government should, for the sake of humanity, suppress it altogether, as it does gambling." Surely opium-smoking is as bad, in fact much worse, than an occasional investment of a few dollars in the Macao lottery?" he does not know what he is talking about. Why does not this foreigner attack red-nosed iuebriates, and advocate that all the bar-rooms in the Colony, if not in the world, be closed instantaneously; the use of liquor is held by many eminent European doctors to be more injurious than the alleged opium vice. Dr. Attygalle, of Ceylon, recently wrote to the Colombo papers as follows:—"The evils attributed to the use of opium by the Low-country Singhalese and others are not in keeping with my experience. I have before my mind's eye at this moment more than half-a-dozen confirmed and inveterate opium-eaters. They have indulged in the habit for years and years, apparently without any injurious results to their health, or rendering themselves obnoxious to others. One of them, it would hardly be credited when it is stated, is close on 100 years of age, and he has been addicted to the opium habit for the last 51 years! He is as well as could be, both physically and mentally, at the present time, for a man of his age, and it is only last week that he came to see me, walking a distance of seven miles at one stretch. Doubtless the indulgence in opium as a habit is both objectionable and undesirable for many reasons, but in my opinion it is quite harmless compared with the use of intoxicating liquors. I have not known a single instance in my long experience of any person committing a crime under the influence of opium, but, if I mistake not, more than half the assaults and murders reported throughout the island (Ceylon) are the outcome of drink in one way or another, and yet no serious attempt is made by our would-be philanthropists to restrict the liquor traffic. Verily, they are 'guides which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel.'—Yours etc..

CHOP CHOP.

THE CHINA-BORNEO CO., LTD.

The first annual meeting of the above Company was held at the offices of the Company, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, on the 19th inst. There were present:—Mr. A. G. Wood (chairman), the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, Mr. J. Wheeley, general manager, and Messrs. Gershom Stewart, J. Barton, A. W. van Gibbs, W. Parlane, J. W. C. Bonnar, O. Baptista, L. E. Czororio, and Leung Shui Lun.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen.—The report and accounts have now been in your hands for some days, and I presume there is no objection to their being taken as read. The company's operations during the year show a fairly satisfactory result, considering the bad state of business generally during the whole of the period under review, and that a considerable amount of time was lost, in the earlier

part of the year, in organising the present (amalgamated) company, and this matter required the very careful attention of the management for some months. The accounts now before you have had to bear an exceptional charge. Under the agreement for amalgamation, dated 21st October, 1902, it was arranged that the present company should complete the existing contracts of the Borneo Hardwood Co. Ltd., and that the profit, if any, on the said contracts should be equally divided between the present company and the Borneo Hardwood Co.; the latter company retaining all liability for non-fulfilment and for loss on the said contracts. The estimated profit on these contracts amounted to \$14,448.40, and half this sum (\$7,224.20) has been deducted from profit on sales of timber, etc., which amounted to \$92,753.72, reducing this sum to \$85,529.52 (the amount shown in the accounts). The contracts referred to are now ended; consequently, this is a charge that will not occur again, and we shall, in future, retain the whole of the profit on all transactions that pass through the Company's hands. We hope you will approve our recommendation as to the disposal of the sum at credit of working account, i.e. the payment of a dividend of 5 per cent. to shareholders, absorbing \$27,600, writing \$4,000 off launches and lighters, \$4,502.04 off timber concessions, and also writing off the whole of the preliminary expenses, amounting to \$9,991.60. The various properties have been well maintained and are all in good order, and I am glad to be able to say that, so far, the operations for the current year are quite satisfactory. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions you may like to put.

No questions were put.

The report and accounts, as presented by the CHAIRMAN and seconded by Mr. W. PARLIANCE, were adopted.

It was proposed by Mr. J. BASTON, seconded by Hon. GEESHOM STEWART, and carried that the Consulting Committee be re-elected.

It was proposed by Mr. A. W. VAN GIBB, seconded by Mr. J. W. C. BONNAR, and carried, that Mr. W. Hutton Potts be re-elected auditor of the Company for the present year.

The CHAIRMAN stated that dividend warrants would be ready for issue on Monday, the 21st inst., on application at the office of the Company. With the usual vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., was held on the 24th inst. in the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Hon. C. W. Dickson presided, and there were also present Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood and E. Shellim (consulting committee), Messrs. W. H. Gaskell, J. C. Peter, J. R. Michael, F. Smyth, A. Rodger, A. Bain, S. J. Michael, T. F. Forrest, G. H. Potts, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shiu, and J. Barton (secretary).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—I assume you will have no objection to taking the report as read. There is no special feature in connection with the working of the refineries during last year to which I could usefully refer. The difficulties attending our uncertain currency are, of course, still with us, but these I am sure you already fully appreciate. A higher level of exchange cheapened purchases of raw sugar and enabled us to secure greater margins on sales made in silver, the volume of which it will be of interest to you to know shows a very encouraging increase. Fluctuations in price were much less severe than we had been accustomed to for some time previously, and now that the pernicious system of bounties is a thing of the past, it is not unreasonable to suppose that when the still large stock of bounty fed sugars are worked off, speculation in the article will be determined by factors which can be more readily gauged. It has been deemed prudent to write down our stock and forward purchases of raw sugar to a point which should ensure the present year not being saddled with unduly high cost, a course which I feel sure will have your approval.

While the inability for the second year in succession to pay any return to shareholders is matter of regret to the general agents, yet you will doubtless regard the result of working for 1903 as not unsatisfactory, the profit made representing as it does 14½ per cent. on the capital of the company. There is still unfortunately a rather considerable sum at debit of profit and loss, which must be covered before we again reach a dividend paying stage, but if present prospects hold, there is good ground for hoping that this will be achieved before another year's accounts are submitted to you. I beg formally to move that the report and accounts as presented be adopted and passed.

Mr. G. H. POTTS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. C. PETER moved that the consulting committee be re-elected.

Mr. W. H. GASKELL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. F. SMYTH moved that Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts be re-elected auditors.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., was held on the 24th inst. in the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Hon. C. W. Dickson presided, and there were also present Messrs. J. H. Lewis and A. G. Wood (consulting committee), P. A. Barlow, G. H. Potts, E. J. Moses, W. J. Gresson, C. H. Ross, Ho Fook, J. M. Graça and J. Barton (secretary).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—As indicated in the report now before you, there has been no work done at the refinery during last year, circumstances with which you are already conversant continuing to render this impossible; and the accounts now submitted show only an increased debit balance by the addition of fire insurance, interest and such minimum expenditure as was necessary to keep the machinery and buildings in a satisfactory condition. The outlook, I regret to say, is no more promising than it was a year ago. It is difficult, under prevailing circumstances, to shape any other course than that being pursued, although it is obvious that this cannot go on indefinitely, but I may say that if any reasonable offer for the property were received, I should not hesitate to at once put it before you for your favourable consideration. I beg to formally move the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. BARLOW seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. G. H. Potts moved the re-election of the consulting committee.

Mr. E. J. MOSES seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. C. H. ROSS moved the re-election of the auditor, Mr. T. Arnold.

Mr. J. C. PETER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

WATKINS, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the general managers, to be presented at the ordinary annual meeting of shareholders held at the Company's office at noon, on the 26th March:

Gentlemen,—We beg to submit to you our report, and a statement of the accounts of the Company for the year ended the 31st December, 1903.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and including the \$1,053.10 carried forward from last year, the balance at credit of this account amounts to \$15,442.22. From which has to be deducted the following sums written off as depreciation, viz.:—

From plant and machines,	\$2,000.00
From furniture and fixtures,	1,700.00
From steam launch,	700.00
	4,400.00

Leaving available the sum of \$11,042.22

DIVIDEND.

From the above amount your general managers propose to pay the same dividend as last year, namely, 10 per cent., absorbing \$10,000, and to carry forward the balance of \$1,042.22 to the current year's account.

EQUALISATION OF DIVIDEND FUND.

The amount at credit of this fund remains as before, \$4,802.57.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have again been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts.

BALANCE-SHEET, 31st December, 1903.

	LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital—10,000 shares @ \$10 fully paid-up	100,000.00	
Equalisation of dividend fund.....	4,802.57	
Dividends unclaimed at date	371.60	
Guaranty Trust Company of New York..	11,947.19	
Bills payable	27,341.21	
Loans payable	6,160.00	
Accounts payable	16,179.85	
Loan on mortgage	22,720.00	
Profit and loss account	11,042.22	
		<u>\$200,564.64</u>

	ASSETS.	\$ c.
Aerated water plant, as per last report	\$ 9,000.00	
Less written off	2,000.00	
		<u>7,000.00</u>
Steam launch, as per last report	7,000.00	
Less written off	700.00	
		<u>6,300.00</u>
Furniture and fixtures, as per last report	1,700.00	
New shop fixtures, &c., since added	15,377.18	
		<u>17,077.18</u>
Less written off	1,700.00	
		<u>15,377.18</u>
Building	22,720.00	
Fixed deposits	2,200.00	
National Bank of China, Limited	371.60	
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	524.42	
Cash	1,570.49	
Licences attaching to 1904	936.67	
Stock, &c., with branches	14,136.44	
Stock on hand	90,210.14	
Accounts receivable :—		
Trade accounts	\$36,681.52	
Sundry debtors	2,536.18	
		<u>39,217.70</u>
		<u>\$200,564.64</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	\$ c.
To amounts written off for depreciation :—	
From aerated water plant.....	\$2,000.00
From steam launch.....	700.00
From furniture and fixtures... 1,700.00	4,400.00
To balance	11,042.22
	<u>\$15,442.22</u>

Cr.	\$ c.
By balance forward from last year.....	,053.10
By net profits for the year 1903,—less bad and doubtful debts written off	14,389.12
	<u>\$15,422.22</u>

CAMPBELL, MOORE, AND CO., LTD.

The following is the report of the board of directors to the eighteenth ordinary meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's office, No. 29, Queen's Road Central, on the 31st March, at noon:—

Gentlemen,—The directors have the pleasure to lay before you the accounts for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1903, showing a credit balance of \$6,923.51, which, with your approval, your directors propose to deal with as follows:—

To pay a dividend of 30 per cent....	\$3,600.00
To pay directors fees	600.00
To write off fixture and furniture accounts	126.58
To place to reserve fund account... 2,000.00	2,000.00
To carry forward to next year's account	596.93
	<u>\$6,923.51</u>

The business continues steady and there is every probability that a similar result may be looked forward.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin, who offers himself for re-election.

A. F. ARCELLI, Chairman.
Hongkong, 24th March, 1904.

BALANCE-SHEET.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1903.	
ASSETS.	\$ c.
To stock—Value of stock on hand.....	10,084.18
To accounts receivable—Due from customers.....	5,271.08
To cash—Amount on hand.....	119.48
To Chartered Bank—In current account.....	3,926.14
To fixed deposit account—with Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	3,500.00
To furniture and fixtures—	
As per last account	\$678.45
Written off as per resolution passed 31st March, 1903.....	178.45
	509.00
Less sale of an iron safe	10.50
	489.50
Since added	137.08
	626.58
To insurance account...Unexpired fire premium paid in advance	18.42
	\$23,525.88

LIABILITIES.

By capital—1,200 shares paid up at \$10 each	\$ 12,000.00
By accounts payable—Due to sundry creditors.....	897.57
By reserve fund—	
As per last account	\$2,500.00
Added as per resolution at meeting 31st March, 1903	1,000.00
	3,500.00
By unclaimed dividends and bonus	204.80
By balance at credit of profit and loss	6,923.51
	\$23,525.88

WORKING ACCOUNT.

To charges.....	\$2,352.07
To wages	9,663.00
To reserve fund—As passed at meeting 31st March, 1903	1,000.00
To dividend—25 per cent. passed at meeting 31st March, 1903	3,500.00
To directors' fees.....	178.45
To furniture and fixtures—Written off as passed at meeting 31st March, 1903	8.0.0
To auditors' fees	3,120.00
To rent	150.00
To bonus to head barber, passed at meeting 31st March, 1903	53.36
To insurance.....	269.65
	\$747.15
Less amount collected 1899 \$14.15	
1902 6.50 20.65	
	726.50

To loan account—Amount of loan account written off, being 1/2 cost of passage of barbers from Japan	47.00
To balance	6,923.51

By balance brought forward from last account	\$ c.
5,336.68	
By interest	154.48
By sales and shop returns.....	\$30,673.62
Less cost of stock	8,421.01
	22,252.61
By transfer fees	3.00
By Hongkong Club.....	637.27
	\$28,384.04

RESERVE FUND.

To balance.....	\$3,500.00
By balance 31st December, 1902	2,5 0.00
By added 31st December, 1903	1,000.00

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO. LTD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifteenth ordinary general meeting to be held at the office of the general manager on Wednesday, 6th April, at 11.30 a.m.:—

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders a statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1903.

The net profit, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amounts to \$20,211.54 which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.:—

To place to reserve fund \$20,000.00
To pay a dividend of 15 per cent. ...150,000.00
To carry forward to next year's account 32,115.74

We are glad to be able to recommend an increased dividend, for we think this year's work fully justifies it, but too much must not be expected in this respect until the overdrawn bank account becomes somewhat reduced.

The increased consumption, especially in this Colony, has kept pace with our enlarged facilities for production, and for the latter part of the year the factories worked at their full capacity.

The threatened scarcity of raw material has we hope been overcome, and we anticipate no further trouble on that score.

Consulting Committee.—In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., the Hon. C. W. Dickson, and Dr. J. W. Noble, retire, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. Mr. C. Ewens, who is shortly leaving the Colony, does not offer himself for re-election.

Auditors.—The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts, who are recommended for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Exchange	\$ 106.08
Interest	26,319.98
Consulting committee's fee	1,500.00
Auditors' fees	400.00
Amount written off as depreciation for 1903	114,759.94
Balance	202,115.74

	\$ c.
Balance brought forward from 1902	25,676.74
Balance of working account:—	\$ c.
From sales of cement	316,260.99
From sales of bricks, &c.	3,255.71
	319,516.00

BALANCE-SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
Capital:—	
100,000 shares at \$10, fully paid up	1,000,000.00
Reserve fund	330,000.00
Due to general managers.....	2,371.70
Sundry creditors	45,414.61
Company's bankers	427,984.66
Balance of profit and loss account	202,115.74

ASSETS.	\$ c.
Green Island, Macao:—	
Buildings and machinery as per last statement	\$ 228,000.00
Since expended.....	23,627.09
	251,627.91
Less depreciation	15,627.09
	236,000.00
Cement raw material &c. in stock, valued at	123,027.67
Hok Un, Hongkong:—	
Land, buildings and machinery, as per last statement	1,000,000.00
Since expended.....	100,975.57
	1,10,975.57
Less depreciation	66,975.57
	1,34,000.00
Cement, raw material, &c., in stock, valued at	291,306.82
Deep Water Bay works:—	
Land, buildings and machinery as per last statement	56,500.00
Since expended	29,112.23
	85,612.28
Less depreciation	5,612.28
	80,000.00
Bricks, pipes, &c., in stock valued at	24,309.46
Cement on consignment valued at	6,108.00
Office furniture as per last statement	1,000.00
Less depreciation	300.00
	700.00
Sundry debtors	146,269.41
Valee of premium on unexpired policies..	1,377.94
Steam launch, steam lighter, lighters, junk, &c.	86,000.00
Since expended.....	15.00
	86,015.00
Less depreciation	26,245.00
	59,770.00
Cash on hand.....	4,716.78

The coroner's jury at Victoria, B.C., enquiring into the cause of the loss of the steamer *Clallam* and 54 lives on the 8th January, which we reported at the time, delivered a verdict finding Captain Roberts guilty of manslaughter and Chief Engineer Delaunay criminally culpable. Delaunay is severely censured for negligence and incompetence.

YANGTSZE WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.

The following is the report of the directors for the year ended December 31st, 1903, to be submitted to the ordinary annual meeting to be held at the office of the general agents, Shanghai, on the 30th March:—

Out of the balance at credit of profit and loss, viz., Taels 49,760.10, it is proposed to pay a dividend of 18 per cent, absorbing Taels 45,000, and to place Taels 3,000 to the credit of repairs account, carrying forward Taels 1,070.10 to next year.

Mr. Witt having left Shanghai, Inspector Kohler, of the Hamburg-America Line, has been invited to take his place on the Board, and his appointment requires confirmation. According to the articles of association, Mr. R. Lemke and Mr. R. Kohler retire from the Board, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The property of the company has been kept in good repair, and the cost charged to working expenses without drawing on repairs account.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. G. Wuilleumier, who offers himself for re-election.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 22nd March.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

DISPUTE ABOUT A DRESS-SUIT.

Mr. H. A. B. Cooke sued the Yee Sang Fat firm, tailors, Queen's Road Central, for \$55, being money paid by him to the defendants for a dress suit which they undertook to deliver to him well fitting and of good quality. Mr. A. C. Holborow, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker & Deacon, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens & Harston, solicitors, for the defendants.

Mr. Cooke in evidence stated that he ordered the dress suit some time in the latter end of December. When it was delivered to him the first time he had not the money by him to pay for it, and he asked them to send it round in a few days. When they sent it back to the Hotel America, where he was staying, he paid for the suit. He had no occasion to use the suit for some time afterwards and he did not open the parcel to look at it. When he did undo the parcel and tried the suit on he found that it did not fit and that the facings and trimmings were not of silk as he had stipulated for. He had done business with the defendant firm previously, and they had asked him for an order for a dress suit if he should require one. He told them that he had asked about the price of a dress suit at Messrs. Lane Crawford & Co.'s and had been told that that firm would make him a first-class suit for between \$90 and \$100. Defendants said they could make as good a suit for \$55, and that they would if necessary give a written guarantee as to its quality. When plaintiff found that the suit supplied by the defendants was unsatisfactory he returned it. Owing to the fact that he had to attend at a cinematograph performance which he promoted in the City Hall about the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of January he had to order a new suit from another firm of tailors.

On the suit being produced for the inspection of the Court, his Lordship said the facings were ordinary China silk, of as good a quality as could be expected for \$55.

Mr. Holborow contended that the contract entered into was for the supply of a suit equal to that made by Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. for from \$90 to \$100, and that the defendants had no right to repudiate their contract.

His Lordship pointed out that plaintiff in his evidence had admitted that the suit had been tried on by him several times and he had taken no objection to the fit; he took delivery of the suit,

Thursday, 24th March.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHINESE BANKRUPTS' WAYS.

Mr. John Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master, solicitors, appeared in support of an application for a receiving-order by Lam Yung, carrying on business in the Central Market as a provision-dealer. Mr. Hays stated that this petition arose out of a creditors' petition which had been taken out against this shop. Lam Yung was the real owner of the shop. The assets consisted chiefly of outstanding debts, and amounted to over \$8,000, leaving a deficit of \$980.

Lam Yung on being put into the witness-box deposed that since the receiving-order was made against the shop he had not collected any of the debts. There was also the furniture in the shop and some goods. Of the outstanding debts \$3,000 or \$4,000 could be collected. The reason he had not collected any of the money was that the books of the shop were in the Court. He had had judgment given against him for \$600.

His Lordship pointed out that the petitioner should have filed a list of his creditors and their addresses with the amounts owing by them, and stating whether these debts were good, bad, or doubtful. His Lordship said he would be the first to assist a deserving man who got bankrupt, but this petitioner was simply abusing the Bankruptcy laws. He had said that there was the shop furniture as part of the assets, and now it appeared that the furniture had been seized in execution of a judgment debt. He ought to be sent to gaol for three months for lying.

Mr. Hays having given an undertaking to deposit \$100 with the Registrar in respect of the Official Receiver's expenses, and to prepare a list of the outstanding debts.

His Lordship granted a receiving-order. He remarked (addressing Mr. Bruce Shepherd) that he had been struck with the fact that not one man in fifty who applied for a receiving-order ever came up to ask for a discharge.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd stated that the last man had been sent to gaol.

His Lordship replied that he was very properly sent to gaol. Bankrupts must go through the whole course of the procedure. It would not do to go half-way through and then draw back.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd explained that very few bankrupts ever came back again. They disappeared and nothing more was heard of them.

His Lordship said this was really a white-washing process to prevent a man going to gaol. We had the same law as in England, but unfortunately not the same class of people to deal with.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd pointed out that if bankruptcy proceedings were not taken some creditor would seize the goods and the others would get nothing. With regard to dividend, there was one of 50 per cent. the other day.

His Lordship supposed that was a surprise-packet. They were in the habit of coming there and applying for receiving-orders after judgment given against them for various debts. These cases ought to be carried right through.

Mr. Bruce Shepherd replied that that could not be done, because the majority of the bankrupts absconded.

His Lordship added that this was really a matter worth consideration, and he would be glad to hear from Mr. Bruce Shepherd if he could suggest any point—whether there could not be found some feasible way of making a condition that a man who came there and got the protection of the Bankruptcy laws should have to undertake to collect his debts, and if not he would be guilty of contempt of Court.

A big fire took place on the 10th inst. at Shanghai. It started in the Yung Lung Cotton Mill, in Amoy Road, and spread to the surrounding buildings. Ten houses and the Ewo Yik Cotton Mill were destroyed, while the mill in which the fire broke out was only partially damaged. A number of the firemen who had been attending a Masonic ball in the Town Hall turned out in evening dress and Masonic regalia. Damage is estimated at 10,000 taels.

FOOTBALL.

CHALLENGE SHIELD.—SEMI-FINALS.

The replayed tie in the Challenge Shield competition took place on the 12th inst. in the Happy Valley. The Leviathans, owing to their sterling display last Wednesday, when, with a man short, they effected a draw with the Cressy, were naturally the public fancy in the replay. The teams turned out punctually at the advertised time, a strong muster of spectators, in which the naval element naturally predominated, giving them a hearty reception. The Cressy men appeared much lighter than their opponents, especially in the rear division. The Leviathan winning the toss, elected to play with the breeze behind them, from the eastern end of the ground. They went away with a rush, and made a strong onslaught on the Cressy goal, which was soon threatened. McDonald, however, although hard pressed, managed to clear his lines. The Cressy then got a look in and McKoy recovering possession, put in a somewhat weak shot, which Corbett had no difficulty in clearing. Both teams were now warming up to their work, the ball alternating from end to end rapidly. The Cressy men were playing a bustling game, and at length compelled their opponents to concede a corner. This, however, was not turned to account. Play hereabouts was of a somewhat desultory character, the ball frequently being out of touch. Then the Cressy got going again, and an oblique shot from the half-back line by Noyes beat Corbett, and the Cressy were one up. This reverse roused the Leviathan men, and Hutchings got away down the right wing, finishing up with a somewhat weak shot into Todd's hands. Oldham dashed up and endeavoured to bundle goalkeeper and ball through, but was too late. Then the Cressy took up the running, Townsend making a fine sprint down the left wing, and evading all attempts to intercept him; he spoilt the effort, however, by shooting wide of the target. It was very apparent at this stage that the Leviathan were poor in the rear, the backs making several weak clearances, and the half-back division not rendering the front line adequate support. Bell—who, rumour says, is an old Tottenham Hotspur player—was showing commendable form in the centre, feeding his wings judiciously. Receiving a pass from this player, Hall got away down the left wing, and looked dangerous; his finishing effort, however, was very weak, and McTodd had no difficulty in clearing. The Cressy men always appeared more dangerous in front of goal than did their opponents, and both Mills and Townsend tried shots, which were somewhat fortunately cleared. However, the continual pressure was bound to tell, and long shot from the half-back division pierced the Leviathan citadel, and the Cressy were two to the good. Their naval supporters were now jubilant, and vigorously urged them to further effort, a cornet being brought into requisition. They still kept up the pressure, and were continually dangerous. At length a foul was given against them for an infringement of the rules, which was taken by Kinch. He, however, put the ball behind. The next exciting episode was when Bell, securing possession, evaded all opposition, and running right through the opposing defence, scored for the Leviathan. Things now appeared more equal, and both sides renewed their efforts, the one to equalise, the other to increase their advantage. Some pretty combined play then ensued between Bell, Hall, and Oldham, but the latter player shot wide of the posts. Now for a time the Cressy goal underwent a bombardment, both Bell and Oldham sending in shots. Bell appeared to be the most scientific forward on the field, but he suffered from lack of adequate support, and Bridge, getting down, gave Corbett a warm handful with a screwing shot, which, however, he negotiated in good style. The Leviathan were still bent on obtaining the equaliser, and their half-back line kept the forwards going. Weak shooting, however, spoilt their endeavours. They were at this stage of the game more than holding their own. Jackson then took the ball down to the other end, but was faulty in shooting. A foul was hereabouts given against Cressy. Briggs averted danger with a neat overhead kick. The Leviathan men again got going, and Hutchings got down, the ball passing right along the forward line. The final touch was given by

Brown, who shot straight, but the ball rebounded off a Cressy back, and a corner resulted. It was not, however, turned to advantage. The next exciting incident was when, from an attack by the Cressy forwards Jeffries miskicked, and Corbett had to leave his charge in order to save. Mills then tested Corbett with a somewhat tame shot. Half-time arrived with the score Cressy, 2; Leviathan 1. When the ball was re-started the Leviathan forward line got going, and Hall, when favourably placed, failed to accept a pass from Bell, the ball going over the line. Hard lines occurred to the Leviathan a moment later when a splendid shot from Hall, which appeared to score, was luckily intercepted by Briggs's head, and only a corner resulted. The game was of a typical Cup-tie order—a maximum of dash with a minimum of science. Occasionally some combined play was seen, but the game throughout was largely of the kick-and-rush order. The Cressy men now took up the running, and a concentrated attack compelled Jeffreys to kick out to clear. McKoy put in a straight one, which Corbett disposed of, and then Oldham made an attempt at the other end. The pressure of the Cressy men was bound to tell, and after McKoy had missed an open goal, with the ball at his foot, he executed a smart run, and transferred to Mills, who notched No. 3 for the Cressy. They now fairly bombarded the Leviathan goal, McKoy and Townsend trying shots. One particularly fine shot by Townsend just dropped on the top of the net. The Cressy wingers were very fast, Townsend playing a particularly smart game. One centre of his went right across the goal-mouth, but found nobody up to meet it. The Leviathan seemed now to have lost a good deal of the dash they had previously displayed. Bell at length got down, but McTodd cleared without any difficulty. An amusing incident occurred when the artist on the cornet suddenly broke out with the refrain of "Big Ben struck one—two—three—four." Brown of the Leviathan once had a golden opportunity. He had run right through all opposition, and with no one to beat but the goalkeeper, overran the ball. All seemed over now bar shouting, and spectators were leaving the field when suddenly Townsend got away down the line, centred well, but Jackson put over the bar. From the goal-kick the attack was resumed, and a corner was at length conceded by Jeffreys. The kick was well taken, and Townsend applying his head to the sphere put his side four up. Shortly afterwards the whistle sounded, and the final score being Cressy, 4; Leviathan, 1.

That the Cressy were three goals better value than the Leviathan is open to doubt. They were smarter on the ball, their forward line exhibited a better understanding, but what luck was going was certainly in their favour. A pleasing feature of the match was the hearty, vigorous methods of the sailor teams, every man doing the best he knew, but fouls or shady tactics being almost entirely absent.

The following were the teams:—Cressy:—McTodd, goal; Briggs and McDonald, backs; Noyes, Smith, and Martin, half-backs; Townsend, Mills, McKoy, Bridge, and Jackson, forwards. Leviathan:—Corbett, goal; Jeffreys, and Le Page, backs; Yardley, Kinch, and Shooter, half-backs; Hutchings, Brown, Bell, Oldham, and Hall, forwards.

Referee, Lieut. Barnby.

Another Semi-final in the Football Shield series was played off at Happy Valley on the 17th inst. between teams from H.M.S. Albion and H.M.S. Ocean, the game ending in a victory for the Albions, who will have to contest with the Cressy next Saturday for the shield. The Ocean kicked off against the wind, what little there was. The ground was in excellent condition, and the afternoon cool. That there was little to choose between the men was evinced by the large crowd of spectators, who completely surrounded the field two and three deep. The Hongkong Football Club's stand, too, was quite full, many ladies being amongst the spectators. Throughout the game hand-clapping and cheering were incessant; when a particularly clever feat was accomplished the enthusiastic sailors at all quarters threw their caps in the air, while cheering louder than before rose in one note from everywhere. The game, in the first half,

was an even one, each side, in succession, having a more-or-less share of play. McGinnis, of the *Albion*, drew first blood amid the greatest applause; and Wallace, of the same ship, added another. The *Ocean* got their turn, Downie, scoring. This position was maintained at the close of the first half. In the second half the *Albion* clearly proved themselves the stronger lot, but missed some good opportunities. Barr added No. 3; and Williams a fourth. The game, lacking interest somewhat towards the end, finished:—H.M.S. *Albion*, 4; H.M.S. *Ocean*, 1.

The teams were:—H.M.S. *Ocean*:—McDermid, goal; McIntyre and Hall, backs; Wright, Holt, and Schwanu, halves; Spiner, Harbottle, Dowrie, Walmsby, and Vaughan, forwards.

H.M.S. *Albion*:—Barr, goal; J. Thompson and Oliver, backs; Stanley, T. Holmes, and Spencer, halves; Forman, Wallace, Williams, Ball, and McGinnis, forwards.

Capt. P. G. Davies, A.O.D., was referee.

SHIELD FINAL

The final tie of the Hongkong Football Shield—the match of the season—was played off in the Happy Valley on the 19th inst. between teams from H.M.S. *Albion* and H.M.S. *Cressy*. The *Albion* winning the toss, the *Cressy* kicked off against the wind. McCoy and the other forwards dribbled up the centre of the ground. The *Albion*, however, before long worked to their opponents' end, the ball going behind off McGinnis's head. McCoy (*Cressy*) passed to Mills, and the latter to Townsend, who kicked it behind. The *Albion*, from the goal-kick, worked the ball down the centre again. McGinnis, at outside left, centred, and the ball went into goal off Noyes's head, great applause ensuing. Spencer, the *Albion*'s left half, kicked the ball right in front of the *Cressy*'s posts, but Williams was prevented from scoring. The *Cressy* made a forward movement, the ball being sent behind twice. After the goal-kick play was diverted to the other side of the field, only to return again a little later. After the ball was sent into touch from mid-field Forman gave the *Cressy* a corner, which was well handled by Jackson. Nothing resulted. The *Cressy*, determined to equalise, made a strong attack the ball finally being headed over the posts by Mills. The *Albion* again came on, Williams giving the *Cressy* goalkeeper an opportunity of fielding, the ball going behind off the latter's hands. The *Albion* continued to play dangerously near their opponents' citadel, Todd saving splendidly on two occasions. A corner was given, and shortly afterwards the ball was sent behind. This afforded the *Cressy* considerable relief, and they immediately turned the tables, one of their team sending in a long and strong shot from centre. Once more the *Albion* got the leather back to the other half of the ground, but Thompson, the *Albion* back, was one too many. A corner was given at the *Albion* end, after which Forman worked the ball down the right wing, finally passing to centre. Jackson and McGinnis had a little game on their own on the opposite wing, Jackson getting away. A foul was given against the *Albion* in their own half, but Williams and Ball passed down into *Cressy* territory, the ball finally being kicked behind. Townsend passed to centre, Holmes meeting the attack. The *Albion* worked up, but, after almost going the whole distance, the ball was returned. *Cressy* now was playing strongly, Mills and Forman doing good work on the right wing; the ball, however, was sent behind. The *Albion* made a forward movement, but Ball sent the ball behind, though there was an open goal, in the most absurd manner. The *Cressy* had to cede a corner. Townsend, who took the kick, sent the ball on top of the net. Half-time whistle found the score 1—0 in the *Albion*'s favour.

The game was recommenced amid great cheering. First the ball was sent into touch by the *Albion* three times in succession. The *Cressy* proceeded to attack, Townsend shooting off a pass from McCoy. Though the ball was stopped, the *Cressy* men held their ground for some time, but McGinnis eventually got away along the right boundary line. McDonald, a *Cressy* half, was applauded for a fine kick, as also was Smith for a good shot from centre half-back. A free kick was given to the *Cressy*, the ball being sent behind. Briggs did some pretty work, taking the ball from an

Albion man on the left wing. The *Cressy* got well under way, Barr having to handle the ball. The *Cressy* next secured a free kick on account of Barr carrying the ball too far from home—a palpable blunder. The *Albion* at last got away but Macdonald and Martin always seemed to be there. Townsend broke away on the right side. An *Albion* man sent the ball into touch. A corner was given in the *Cressy*'s half, the ball going behind. Forman made a splendid shot from the right wing, just shaving the post. From a corner McGinnis sent the ball behind. The *Albion* had now warmed up considerably, most of the cheering being in their favour. A corner given in favour of the *Cressy*, resulted in a goal kick. The *Cressy* stood in a good way for scoring, but Smith just missed. Jackson shot from the right, sending the ball behind. The *Albion*, in answer to a call for more, came down the centre of the ground, Williams passing to McGinnis, who, after a bit of a scrummage, put the ball into net neatly. The *Cressy* now had but little time left, and stood the poorest chance of equalising, so the game lost interest somewhat. Williams scored a third goal off a pass from Spencer. Play in the vicinity of the *Cressy* goal continued for some time. McGinnis shot from the left sending the ball behind. Forman had an attempt, but without favourable result. A corner was given off Briggs; the *Cressy*, however, preventing further score. The *Cressy* gamely tried to break their "duck." The task being too difficult for accomplishment, the game ended:

H.M.S. *Albion*, 3; H.M.S. *Cressy*, 0.

The teams were as follows:—H.M.S. *Cressy*.—Todd, goal; A. J. Macdonald and M. Briggs, backs; D. Martin, A. Smith, and C. Noyes, halves; D. Jackson, J. Hill, W. McCoy, Mills, and L. Townsend, forwards. H.M.S. *Albion*.—Barr, goal; Thompson, and Oliver, backs; Stanley, Holmes, and Spencer, halves; Forman, Ball, Williams, Wallace, and McGinnis, forwards.

Mr. R. Hancock was referee.

The *Albion*, following their practice at the semi-final, "bucked up" considerably in the second half, play in the first half being more or less equal. As compared with their opponents the *Cressy* were a poor combination forward, though strong behind. Williams, the *Albion*'s centre forward, played a weak game at the outset, but improved with time. Forman and McGinnis, on the wings, played prettily throughout. Thompson and Oliver, too, the backs, were at times almost invincible, while, after the *Albion* had scored two goals, Spencer, the left half, at times fell back to make the defence more certain. The combination was beautiful, and there is no doubt that the best side secured the Shield. The ground was very heavy, but otherwise conditions were favourable. Spectators surrounded the field three and four deep, while the stand was packed. After all scoring a signal-man communicated by Morse code to someone who, presumably, signalled the state of the game to the Fleet.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS.

The shrill note of the whistle had hardly announced that the Shield was won, when British tars from all parts of the field raced to secure front positions at the handing over of the Shield, and distribution of medals. Mrs. Atkinson, who, after Dr. Atkinson had addressed the assembly, presented the medals, received a handsome bouquet of flowers from Forman, the captain of the victorious team.

Dr. Atkinson, in the course of his remarks, mentioned that this was the first time in the history of the Shield that four naval teams had contested the semi-finals.

Three cheers were given for Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, and three by the *Albion* for the *Cressy*; the latter receiving a response.

The list of Shield matches, the first being played on the 9th January, is as follows:—

FIRST ROUND.

H.M.S. *Leviathan*, 4—H.M.S. *Glory*, 2.
H.M.S. *Tamar*, 2—V.R.C., 0.
H.K.F.C., 8—Naval Yard, 0.
H.M.S. *Cressy*, 12—R.E., 0.
Sherwood Foresters, 15—Rovers, 0.

SECOND ROUND.

H.M.S. *Albion*, 2—H.M.S. *Tamar*, 0.
H.M.S. *Leviathan*, 8—R.A., 0.

H.M.S. *Ocean*, 3—H.K.F.C., 2.
H.M.S. *Cressy*, 4—Sherwood Foresters, 2.
SEMI-FINAL.
H.M.S. *Cressy*, 4—H.M.S. *Leviathan*, 1.
After a draw of two goals each
H.M.S. *Albion*, 4—H.M.S. *Ocean*, 1.
FINAL.
H.M.S. *Albion*, 3—H.M.S. *Cressy*, 0.

H.K.R.F.C. V. THE NAVY.

The above match was played under Rugby rules, at Happy Valley on the 24th inst. Sandford, captain of the Hongkong team, kicked off, and a pretty bit of combination was witnessed. Play continued in the Navy half for some time. A naval man getting away was tackled by Arthur. Jordan successfully checked another opponent, the ball being passed to Pearce, who kicked it well into touch. The Navy now gained some distance, bringing the ball along with their feet, Royle eventually running ahead with it. Royle was tackled by Black when the sailors were well up the field. The Navy again got away. Arthur, however, forcing them to send the ball into touch when a yard from the Club line. Dixon made a good run, not being met for some distance. Arthur was tackled, getting a torn jersey. His withdrawal from the field to change suspended play. Gordon, of the Navy, got away next, passing to another player. Pearce, running at full speed, picked up wonderfully. At half-time the score was nil.

After the re-start Pearce got away, and passed to Black, the latter being collared. Halifax broke away, and when tackled passed to Pearce, who sent the ball on to Jordan, the latter being tumbled. Dumbell, next had a bit of a run, finally being shoved into touch. At last Pearce dropped a good goal with a long shot from some five yards outside the 25. This "bucked" the Navy up, and they swept the Club before them in a determined rush. Royle passed to Blackwood, who outpaced his adversaries and scored handsomely between the posts. Cameron was tackled by Royle, who, in turn, was collared by Black. Cameron again secured possession but, knocking the ball forward, a scrum ensued. When the ball was heeled out Cantrall got nicely away, eventually passing to Blair who scored another try. It was not converted. No further points were made, the game ending in a win for the Navy by six points (two tries) to Hongkong's four (one dropped goal).

The teams were:—H.K.F.C.—Arthur, full back; Dixon, Pearce, Cameron, and Black, three-quarters; Jordan and Milman, halves; Sandford (Capt.), Halifax, Rogers, Boyd, Dumbell, Strovie, Rowley, and Chard, forwards.

The Navy.—Cantrall, full-back; Blair, Longmore, King, and Royle, three-quarters; Child and Blackwood, halves; Gordon, Rice, Willis, Reeves, Littledale, Bissett, Davies, and Formby, forwards.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. V. UNITED SERVICES.

On the 12th inst. the victorious career of the H.K.C.C. came to an end. After going through the whole season without a defeat and only on one occasion having a fright (when Lowe and Mast were called on to save the match v. the Garrison), the Club has succumbed to an United Services team. Last week the Navy had rather the better of the match, but the Club was not in actual peril, owing to the short hours of play. In the present match there was time to play the game out and the result was a victory for the visitors by 4 wickets. The winning team was very powerful, and Lumsden made a welcome reappearance. The Club, on the other hand, though it would be hard to suggest who else could have been brought into strengthen the side, was obviously less powerful than earlier in the season. As it turned out, the game was not very uneven between the teams, as Moore's 77, not out, (which included 3fours) and Irwin's 56 accounted for most of all the Services' runs. For the Club R. Hancock's 40 was top score, but there were four other two-figure contributions. The bowling was not sensational, but no one was much punished. Williams's 4 wickets for 60 was the best analysis. It will be noted that Lumsden secured a couple of wickets. For the Club J. T. Dixon and R. Hancock did the execution. Rutherford, whose fast deliveries have been

very successful in League matches, was given a trial but did not take a wicket. Scores and analysis:—

H.K.C.C.

T. Sercombe Smith, c Williams, b Lumsden	8
H. Hancock, b Williams	0
A. G. Ward, l.b.w., b Lumsden	14
A. Mackenzie, c Horsey, b Toulmin	25
Walter Dixon, b Horsey	18
R. Hancock (capt.), b Williams	40
J. T. Dixon, c Moore, b Horsey	0
F. Maitland, c Moore, b Vivian	39
C. R. S. Cooper, not out	19
E. Ponsonby, b Williams	3
N. H. Rutherford, b Williams	8
Extras	5
Total	179
UNITED SERVICES.	
Eng.-Lt. Garde, R.N., b J. T. Dixon	4
Mr. Irwin, R.N., c J. T. Dixon, b A. MacKenzie	56
Mr. Horsey, R.N., c J. T. Dixon, b R. Hancock	21
Lt. Lumsden, R.A., b R. Hancock	2
Eng.-Lt. J. Moore, R.N. (capt.), not out	77
Capt. P. G. Davies, A.O.D., c Ponsonby, b J. T. Dixon	8
Major Chichester, D.A.A.G., c C. R. S. Cooper, b J. T. Dixon	0
Eng.-Lt. de Paris, R.N., not out	3
Extras	11
Total (6 wickets)	182
Lieut. Vivian, R.N., Mr. Williams, R.N., and Lieut. Toulmin, R.N. did not bat.	

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	w.
Williams	16.2	2	60	4
Vivian	10	1	22	1
Lumsden	7	—	36	2
Toulmin	5	—	20	1
Horsey	7	2	26	2
Chichester	3	1	10	—
UNITED SERVICES.				
J. T. Dixon	17	2	52	3
Cooper	6	3	15	—
Rutherford	7	—	18	—
R. Hancock	0	—	30	2
Sercombe Smith	3	—	26	—
Mackenzie	6	—	31	1

H.K.C.C. XI v. UNION CHURCH R.C.

The H.K.C.C. on the 19th inst. paid the penalty of putting a poor team into the field against the Union Church Recreation Club and lost the match by 61 runs. Ward, who captained the Club team, won the toss and elected to put the Union Church XI. in first, the wicket being soft and likely to get worse. The manœuvre looked sound, but as it turned out there was not enough sun to dry the ground quickly, and the visitors consequently had the best of the wicket. Mackenzie and Pearce made a good start, the former scoring 24 out of 28, while Pearce went in first and was out sixth, having scored 82 out of 167. Wells made an useful 25 in ugly style, while two other double-figure items helped to bring up the score. The Club, without any of its regular bowlers, was weak in attack and the fielding was poor. When it came to batting only Moore and William Dixon could do anything, and the Club was soundly and deservedly beaten. Scores and analysis:—

U.C.R.C.

A. Mackenzie (capt.), b Dixon	24
T. E. Pearce, c Hooper, b Moore	82
K. E. McGaskill, b Elliott	2
Rev. H. R. Wells, b Rutherford	25
C. R. S. Cooper, b Dixon	12
H. Arthur, b Elliott	2
Rev. C. H. Hickling, run out	14
J. W. C. Bonnar, b Rutherford	0
Geo. Grimes, b Moore	1
W. M. Everall, b Moore	0
C. C. Hickling, not out	7
Extras	8
Total	177

H.K.C.C.

R. Ponsonby, c Wells, b Pearce	4
Eng.-Com. Garde, R.N., b Cooper	5
A. G. Ward (capt.), b Cooper	3
Eng.-Lt. G. Moore, R.N., st Arthur, b Pearce	24
Lt. Mahon, R.N., b Pearce	9
H. M. Elliott, R.N., c Wells, b Cooper	1
William Dixon, b McCaskill	45
Surg. R. R. Horsey, R.N., b Pearce	11
J. Hooper, b Cooper	5
T. C. Gray, b Cooper	0
N. H. Rutherford, not out	0
Extras	9
Total	116

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

U.C.R.C.

	O.	M.	R.	w.
Dixon	14	2	52	2
Elliott	9	1	52	2
Mahon	4	—	25	—
Rutherford	9	—	3	2
Moore	4	1	10	3
	O.	M.	R.	w.
Cooper	15	4	45	5
Pearce	13	1	57	4
McCaskill	12	—	5	1

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

On the 12th the Championship yachts resailed the Ninth Club Race, which was unfinished on the 20th February. There was a tolerably steady south-easterly breeze the whole day, and the race was finished in good time.

The *Elspeth* got the best of the start, but fell into third place at the markboat off Chung Hue, and *Aileen* crept up in the heat down to Fairway Buoy. After rounding the Chung Hue markboat the second time, *Dione* and *Aileen* kept to the south of Stonecutters' Island, whilst *Vernon* and *Elspeth* kept the north side. Finally the *Dione*, beautifully handled in the beat against wind and tide by H. E. the Acting Governor, crossed the line first, and the *Vernon* coming down in the slack water under Kowloon Point passed the *Aileen* out in the tide and took second place. The times at the finish were:—

H. M. S.	H. M. S.
<i>Dione</i> ... 3 53 3½	<i>Aileen</i> ... 3 59 0
<i>Vernon</i> ... 3 57 45	<i>Elspeth</i> ... 4 0 40

On the 13th the Royal Engineers' Cup was sailed for in a strong easterly breeze. The course was between Stonecutters' and Green Island, finishing at Stonecutters' South Pier.

The *Min* led the fleet up to the first markboat, the yachts running before the strong breeze with spinnakers set as fast as steamers, but at the second round the *Alannah* had taken the leading position. She, however, afterwards was unfortunate enough to disqualify herself by touching the markboat off Green Island. The wind about this time backed more to the northward, increasing in strength, making it a dead beat up to the winning line, and *Dione* now drew ahead, the *Vernon* taking second place. *Dione* crossed the line first, and it looked as if she would have her time on the one-design class; but the *Bonito*, with her new sails and a plucky fair sailor hand aboard, came along in grand style, just beating the *Erica*, which was headed off by a foul puff from the north.

A large party of friends interested in yachting witnessed the race from Stonecutters' Island, where luncheon had been provided in the target-shed. After the crews had landed, the cup, a fine specimen of Japanese silver work, was presented by Mrs. Watkins to Mrs. Hastings, who represented the owners of the *Bonito*.

The following were the times at the finish:—

H. M. S.	H. M. S.
<i>Dione</i> ... 3 5 35	<i>Iris</i> ... 3 25 45
<i>Vernon</i> ... 3 10 20	<i>Chanticleer</i> ... 3 27 25
<i>Erica</i> ... 3 15 0	<i>Gloria</i> ... 3 28 0
<i>Bonito</i> ... 3 14 30	<i>Colleen</i> ... 3 33 0
<i>Min</i> ... 3 16 10	<i>Doreen</i> ... 3 34 40

CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS.

The four championship yachts sailed the eleventh Club Race on the 19th instant over course No. 125, viz., to mark-boat off Green Island, thence to Trocas Rocks, back to Green Island, and home. The day was dry and clear, a great change after the fogs of the last fortnight; but alas, there was little or no wind, and none of the yachts finished.

ONE-DESIGN CLASS.

The one-design class sailed off their eleventh Club race on the 20th in a light and somewhat fluky wind. *Bonito* got the best of the start and maintained her lead to the markboat off Green Island, which was rounded in the following order:—*Bonito*, *Min*, *Colleen*, *Erica*, *Kathleen*, the last four in a bunch. *Bonito* then stood right across towards Chunghue, coming up to Trocas Rocks north of Stonecutters', while the other four beat up the fairway and round the east of the island. *Erica* got becalmed and was left a long way behind. *Colleen* caught *Min*, but after a good deal of jockeying *Min* got the lead again and led *Colleen* by about a minute at Trocas Rocks Buoy, *Kathleen* being about two minutes behind, *Colleen* and *Bonito* about five

minutes behind *Kathleen*. On the run down to Green Island *Kathleen* caught *Colleen*, and they rounded the mark-boat together, *Kathleen*, with the inner berth, about two minutes behind *Min*. *Bonito* had again chosen her own course, and had gone round east of Stonecutters', but put herself out of the race by so doing. On the beat home *Kathleen* and *Colleen* passed *Min* by keeping further to the north, and a most exciting finish resulted between these two, *Kathleen* eventually winning luckily by a length only.

The times at the finish were:—

H. M. S.
<i>Kathleen</i> ... 5 1 45
<i>Colleen</i> ... 5 2 15
<i>Min</i> ... 5 8 45
<i>Bonito</i> ... 5 34 30
<i>Erica</i> not timed.

The Handicap class kept very close together on the run to the Green Island mark-boat, rounding in the following order:—*Alannah*, *Chanticleer*, *Iris*, *Gloria*, *Doreen*. All worked up to the Trocas Rock on the south side of Stonecutters' Island, *Alannah*, *Iris*, and *Chanticleer* being well ahead of the two gunner boats, who evidently did not understand the set of the tides in this corner. On the way home *Alannah* let *Iris* pass her, and the finish was as follows:—

H. M. S.
<i>Iris</i> ... 5 15 10
<i>Alannah</i> ... 5 15 45
<i>Chanticleer</i> ... 5 19 12

On Saturday next the yachts will sail for the R.A. Cup, and on the 17th April a Cup kindly presented by Mr. W. B. Dixon will be competed for.

HOCKEY CUP.

THE FINAL.

The final tie for the Hockey Cup was played off at Happy Valley on the 23rd inst. between H.M.S. *Ocean* and the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry. The soldiers set the ball rolling, but the *Ocean* soon returned it into the other half. Several shots were made at the Mahrattas' goal, one corner being given. Holt, the *Ocean*'s centre-forward, scored the first goal; after which, for the first time in the game, the Mahrattas made a determined attack. They held their ground, and rallied for quite a little time, shooting recklessly everywhere but in the right direction. Even play next followed, but, a little later, the Mahrattas were successful in putting the ball into net, Maroti Yadao shooting. Heath, the Mahratta centre-forward, scored another before half-time. In the second half Heath again sent the ball the whole distance, and then the sailor-men scored two goals in succession, honours falling to Dowding and Drake-Brockman. The sides continued to play an even game, when Heath got clean away, putting the ball between the undefended posts, Edgell, the goalkeeper, having run forward to meet him. This made the score 4—3 in favour of the Mahrattas, and it was thus when the whistle announced that time was up.

compete for the Cup next year, and they would certainly win, for the gentlemen would not be so ungracious as to beat them.

LADIES' RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

It will be a matter of interest to many, especially to our fair readers, and not generally known, that for the past six or seven years Hongkong has possessed a Ladies' Rifle Association, numbering at the present time some fifty members. Mrs. May is the President, and the committee consists of Mrs. Hastings, Mrs. R. C. Wilcox, Mrs. Bryan, and Miss Siebs, whilst Major L. Breton Simmonds, R.E., kindly fills the post of hon. secretary. This Association held its annual prize competition on Tuesday, the 15th, Wednesday, the 16th, and Thursday, the 17th inst., when some fair scores were made in spite of all the elements warring against such a result. The range is far from good at the best of times, the targets being surrounded and overhung with foliage and large trees, making the light very trying; especially has this been so during the last few days, when the events were shot off in the midst of rain, fog, and incipient thunderstorms and even an eclipse of the sun. The prizes were numerous and valuable, and were presented at Government House by Mrs. May at the close of the meeting on Thursday afternoon. Major Baker-Brown, R.E., and Capt. Dean, R.N., kindly assisted Major Le Breton Simmonds as umpires during the meeting.

The following is the programme:—

- 1.—75 YARDS SCRATCH COMPETITION; entrance fee, 25 cents.
1st prize presented by Mrs. May. Won by Mrs. Gompertz, score 28.
- 2nd prize presented by the Association. Mrs. Johnston, score 27.
- 2.—75 YARDS HANDICAP COMPETITION; entrance fee, 25 cents.
1st prize presented by H. N. Mody, Esq. Mrs. Crawford, 30 + 4 = 34.
- 2nd prize presented by the Association. Mrs. Wilcox, 29 + 2 = 31.
- 3.—50 YARDS SCRATCH COMPETITION entrance fee, 25 cents.
1st prize presented by Mrs. Siebs. Mrs. Grey, 27
2nd prize presented by the Association. Mrs. Bryan, 26.
- 4.—50 YARDS HANDICAP COMPETITION; entrance fee, 25 cents.
1st prize presented by J. R. M. Smith, Esq. Mrs. Roome, 23 plus 10 = 33.
2nd prize presented by the Association, Mrs. Birdwood, 22 plus 8 = 30.
- 5.—THE ENCOURAGEMENT CUP I.—50 Yards Handicap Competition; entrance fee, 25 cents.
Prize presented by Mrs. Leigh. To be won by the member with a handicap of less than 6 points making the highest score in Competition No. 4.
Miss Siebs, 27 plus 3 = 30.
- 6.—THE ENCOURAGEMENT CUP II.—50 Yards Handicap Competition; entrance fee 25 cents.
Prize presented by Mrs. Has in s. To be won by the member with a handicap of 6 points or over making the highest score in Competition No. 4.
Mrs. Roome, 23 + 10 = 33.
- 7.—50 YARDS COMPETITION; no entrance fee.
(a.) scratch prize, Mrs. Wilcox, 30; (b.) handicap prize, Mrs. Pritchard, 24 + 1 = 33.
Presented by the husbands of members of the Association.
- 8.—A CUP, presented by Mr. Wilcox; no entrance fee; to be won by the member making the highest aggregate in Competitions Nos. 1, 3 and 7 (a.).
Mrs. Fullerton, 79.
- 9.—A CUP, presented by Sir Paul Chater; entrance fee, 50 cents; to be won by the member making the highest aggregate in Competitions Nos. 1 and 3;
Miss Siebs, 53.
- 10.—THE CONSOLATION PRIZE; entrance fee, 25 cents.
A prize presented by Mrs. Stephens. To be won by the member making the highest score in Competitions Nos. 2 and 4, who has not won a first or second prize at this meeting.
Mrs. Grace, Mrs. Fraser.

BOWLING.

THE NAVY v. A HONGKONG CLUB TEAM

On Monday night a Hongkong Club team, including two of the 8 which recently defeated the Club Germania, met a Naval team at bowling, on the Club alleys. The Club team was unequal to the task set, and suffered defeat by 465 points. The scores were as follows:—

THE NAVY.

	1	2	3	4	Total
1—Lt. Gibson, Waterwitch...	226	216	181	221	844
2—Lt. Ford, Rambler.....	235	21	172	183	761
4—Lt Vivian, Vengeance...	205	173	185	154	717
5—Dr. Horley, Waterwitch...	173	148	119	244	684
8—Lt. Warburg, Waterwitch...	200	184	93	165	642
11—Mr. Brown, Phoenix	191	175	144	125	635
12—Mr. Edwards, Vengeance ..	186	98	124	188	596
13—Mr. Woodman, Waterwitch...	186	206	86	112	590
					Total ... 5,469

HONGKONG CLUB TEAM.

	1	2	3	4	Total
3—T. C. Gray ...	250	188	137	145	721
6—W. A. Sims ..	181	176	178	139	574
7—A. Ellis ...	237	139	139	162	668
9—C. P. Chater...	190	141	146	161	638
10—G. A. Woodcock	223	172	132	110	637
14—G. M. Smith...	130	125	149	176	580
15—E. A. Hankey	191	128	120	121	560
16—J. D. Auld ...	170	122	125	110	527
					Total ... 5,004
Majority for the Navy ...					465.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The following cards were returned at the monthly meeting held at the Happy Valley from the 12th to 14th March:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. A. N. Gregory ...	89	— 10	= 79
Dr. Gibson ...	96	— 15	= 81
Mr. W. M. Anderson ...	86	— 4	= 82
Mr. J. S. Forrest ...	82	+ 3	= 85
Mr. E. J. Grist ...	88	— 3	= 85
Mr. S. D. Blair ...	98	— 10	= 89
Dr. Marles Thomas, R.N. 93	— 4	= 89	
	36 entries.		

POOL.

Mr. E. J. Grist ...	82	— 3	= 79
Mr. A. N. Gregory ...	89	— 10	= 79
Mr. J. S. Forrest ...	79	+ 3	= 82
Mr. W. M. Anderson ...	86	— 4	= 82
Mr. T. C. Gray ...	102	— 16	= 86
	32 entries.		

HONGKONG.

On Wednesday afternoon there took place at Happy Valley the funeral of Mr. F. Andreas Rapp, assistant to Messrs. Wendt & Co., who died at the Peak Hospital on the previous day.

The only cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony last week were:—enteric fever 2, 1 European (imported) and 1 Japanese; small-pox 6, 1 Japanese (imported), 1 Portuguese, and 4 Chinese. 5 of the small-pox cases ended fatally.

The arrival of the *Nicomedea* here on Monday appears to have inspired some wrong ideas as to the extension of the Hamburg-America Line's business. The fact is that the Portland and Asiatic Steamship Co. has chartered the steamships *Arabia*, *Aragonie*, *Nicomedea*, and *Numanzia*.

Mr. G. A. Woodcock, the Secretary of the Sanitary Board, sends us a copy of a pamphlet dealing with the precautions that should be taken against plague, malaria, and cholera. This pamphlet has been printed by the Government, so that the public may have the precautions in a handy form; it may be bought at Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's or at Messrs. Brewer & Co's for 15 cents, which is slightly less than cost price.

By the P. and O. s.s. *Palawan*, which arrived on the 19th inst. there came out Mr. Lane, who has come to the Colony to take up his appointment as assistant chief of the local Fire Brigade.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 20th March, 1904, were 232 non-Chinese and 76 Chinese to the former, and 42 non-Chinese and 2,519 Chinese to the latter institution.

The rackets tournament of the H.K.C.C. has ended in a striking triumph for the brothers Hancock. The Championship and the Singles Handicap were both won by H. Hancock, and the Doubles Handicap by H. and R. Hancock.

When Chief Justice Sir William Goodman goes home on leave this month his place will be taken by the Hon. Attorney-General, Sir Henry Berkeley, whose duties will in turn be assumed by Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law.

H.M.S. *Talbot* arrived from Mirs Bay on the 23rd inst. The *Mercedes* went alongside H.M.S. *Glory* with coal the same morning; the *Glory* is to be ready for sea on Monday. The German gunboat *Luchs* has arrived from Canton; and the German gunboat *Tsintau* has left port, her destination probably being an up-river one.

H.M.S. *Sirius* shifted from her buoy to alongside the *Mercedes* for coal on the 21st inst. The German gunboat *Luchs* has left for up river. The U.S.S. *New Orleans*, now lying at Kowloon Bay, had a minstrel show on board on the 20th Rear-Admiral Cooper, by the way, is on this vessel. The s.s. *Nam Sang*, which brought the *Talbot* Russian refugees from Mirs Bay to Colombo, arrived back in Hongkong on the 21st Capt. George Payne reports fine weather.

H.M. river-gunboat *Sandpiper* arrived from a cruise on the 24th inst. The U.S. cruiser *New Orleans* is now on her way from Hongkong to join the U.S. Asiatic squadron. The U.S.S. flagship *Kentucky* is at the Kowloon Docks—it would be interesting to know when that new floating dock for Manila will be ready. H.M.S. *Glory* and the German gunboat *Moeve* are still in the hands of the Dock Company.

At the Magistracy on the 22nd inst. a meeting of the Justices of the Peace was held to consider an application from James Christie to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situated at No. 2 Shaukiwan Road, under the sign of "The Metropole Hotel." Mr. T. Sercombe Smith presided, the other Justices of the Peace present being Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz and Mr. C. D. Melbourne. Mr. G. K. Hall Bruton, solicitor, who appeared on behalf of the applicant, stated that this application was made as the "Bay View" Hotel, his client's present place of business, was required for another business, and his client was obliged to remove to the "Metropole Hotel." There being no police objections, the application was granted.

Mr. Geo. P. Lammert, auctioneer, put a valuable piece of leasehold property to the hammer, at his sales rooms in Duddell Street, on the 21st inst. The houses in question were Nos. 3 and 4 West End Terrace, sold by order of the mortgagee, Mr. G. K. Hall Bruton being the vendor's solicitor. The property covers all that piece of ground lying on the north side of Inland Lot No. 689, measuring 52 feet 9 inches on the south side on Bonham Road, 52 feet 9 inches on the east side on the remaining portion of Inland Lot No. 689, 142 feet 2 inches on the west side of Inland Lot No. 690, and 142 feet 2 inches. The ground contains an area 7,500 sq. ft. Regarding the houses, an indenture of assignment, dated the 16th February, 1900, was made between Luiz Maria Jacques Alvares and Alfredo Francisco de Jesus Soares to the effect that all rights, easements, and appurtenances belonging or in anywise appertaining to the piece of ground was held for the residue of the term of 999 years commencing on the 28th day of June, 1861, subject to payment of \$28.08 annual Crown rent. Monthly rental of No. 3, \$50, including taxes; monthly rental of No. 4, \$50, including taxes. Twenty per cent. of the purchase money had to be paid at the fall of the hammer, the remainder by the 5th of April. \$10,000 was the upset price, increases of \$100 a time being made—all Chinese bidders—till Mr. Lo Shuit Po knocked it down, on behalf of the Fuk Tai piece-goods Hong, Queen's Road, for \$12,100.

H. M. river-gunboat *Moorhen* returned to Hongkong from a cruise on the 11th inst.

The name of the Rev. F. T. Johnson has been added to the list of J. P.'s.

Mr. W. Ramsay's appointment as Engineer Surveyor for steam-launches is notified in the *Gazette*.

Major L. J. Dopping-Hepenstal, R.E., has been appointed Staff Officer to the Commanding Royal Engineer, South China.

Direct exchange of parcels between Hongkong and the Dutch East Indies is now established. The limits of weight and dimensions are published in the *Gazette*.

H.E. Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B., in compliance with the Shanghai Municipal Council's request, has notified his intention no detach a field officer to inspect and report to the Volunteer Corps there.

Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Henry Noel, K.C.M.G., arrived by the P. & O. s.s. *Simla* and on the 11th inst. hoisted his flag on the *Alacrity*. He has been Rear-Admiral of the Mediterranean Fleet; Lord of the Admiralty, 1893-98, and A.D.C. to Queen Victoria 1894-96. He was born in 1845.

A correspondent calls attention to the dangerous state of the retaining wall on the south side of Caine Road at Breezy Point. During the last rains part of the wall gave way and fell into the road. Now another portion appears to be on the point of giving way. The wall is bulging out already, and when heavy rains come it will very likely collapse altogether, to the danger of any pedestrians who may happen to be passing. The P.W.D. would do well to see to the repair of the wall before the rainy season begins in earnest.

On the 16th inst. the light draught sternwheel gunboat *An Hsi* ran her trial in the harbour. This little vessel was built at Cosmopolitan Dock to the order of Messrs E. C. Wilks & Co., for H.E. the Viceroy of Canton for special service on the higher reaches of the West River. This vessel has been built in the short period of two months from date of order. The principal dimensions are 72 feet over all, 13 feet beam, with a draught of one foot six inches only. The speed attained on the measured mile was 8½ knots, being nearly a knot over the guaranteed speed. The *An Hsi* left to-day for Canton. The plans and specifications were prepared by Mr. W. G. Jack, M.I.N.A., of Messrs. E. C. Wilks & Co.

One could almost count the sailing-ships that visit Hongkong during the year on the fingers, the more up-to-date steamers having almost wiped the pioneer type of craft off the trade in these parts. Indeed, almost the only "wind-jammers," to use a nautical expression, that come this way at all are occasional freighters from New York, with kerosene for the Standard Oil Company, or an odd lumber-vessel from elsewhere. The *Vale of Down*, a small three-masted barque, flying the Sarawak flag, arrived from Rajang on Thursday with 1,000 tons of timber, consigned to Messrs. Sander, Wieler & Co. She was 35 days on the passage, experiencing strong N.N.E.—head winds—gales from Latitude 17 to Latitude 21. Mr. Wesemeier is captain of the craft, while her owners are Messrs. Pasedag & Co., of Amoy. It would be interesting, by the way, to know how many deep-water craft fly Rajah Brooke's flag.

Admiral Sir Cyprian A. G. Bridge, K.C.B., paid his farewell visit to Government House on the 11th inst., being received at Blake Pier by a guard of honour and band from the Sherwood Foresters. In the afternoon he was saluted with 17 guns (15 for Admiral; two for Commander-in-Chief) by the new admiral, answering with 13 guns (13 for Vice Admiral; when Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, the new Commander-in-Chief, officially assumes his position he will be entitled to two more guns). Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge has shifted his flag to the *Lerriathan*, the *Alacrity* being now temporarily occupied by Vice-Admiral Sir Gerard Noel, who may remain on her till the *Glory* is ready for sea-service. Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge will be busy receiving calls, and inspecting the various British warships at Hongkong between this and Monday, when he leaves in the *Alacrity* for passage to Japan. He proceeds home from Japan via Cana'a. It is very probable that as soon as the *Alacrity* gets to sea he will strike his flag.

Mr. H. Wynne, of the Kowloon Docks, was married to Miss Annie Maude Parker, at St. Peter's Church on the 17th inst. The bridesmaids were Miss Ethel Parker (the bride's sister) and Miss Anna Guy. Mr. W. Nicholson was best man. A reception was held afterwards at the Hongkong Hotel.

We have regretfully to record the death at the Government Civil Hospital on the 12th inst. of Mr. William Noble, superintendent engineer of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Ltd. Mr. Noble had been in the service of the Company upwards of eleven years, and had superintended the installation of the Company's huge oil-tanks in various parts of India, at Batavia, and elsewhere. Latterly he had been at Haiphong arranging for an installation of tanks. Suffering from fever, he came to Hongkong about a month ago for medical treatment. Unfortunately complications developed and Mr. Noble succumbed on the 12th inst. He was but 37 years of age, and leaves a wife and child who came with him to Hongkong. The interment took place at the Happy Valley on the 13th the Rev. F. T. Johnson officiating.

In the *Government Gazette* appears a proclamation by H.E. the Officer Administering the Government, to the effect that "all land in the New Territories in relation to which no claim has been presented to the Land Court, and all land the claim to which has been disallowed by the Land Court or in relation to which a title has been refused by the Governor under the power in that behalf reserved by the 14th section of the New Territories Land Court Ordinance, is land the property of the Crown, and all persons in occupation of such land after the dates specified in the Notifications above referred to in respect to the various districts concerned will be deemed and treated as trespassers, unless such occupation be authorised by grant or licence from the Governor or from some person authorised by him in that behalf."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Prince of Wales on the 16th February gave a sitting to Mr. G. E. Wade, the sculptor, for a statue which is to be erected at Hongkong.

A notice appears in the *Shanghai Times* to the effect that on the 12th March the paper became the property of Mr. Frank J. Maitland, and from that date *Sport and Gossip* was incorporated as the Sunday issue of the *Shanghai Times*.

The Shanghai Spring Race Meeting will be held on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th May. The Stewards this year are Messrs. R. E. Bredon, C.M.G. (Chairman), C. Brodersen, D. Landale, F. Gove, John Liddell, W. S. Jackson, and R. Macgregor.

Mr. H. C. Nicholle arrived in Colombo by the *Gera* on the 28th ult. His appointment to Ceylon is for three months, during which he is to re-model the Auditor-General's department. The popular idea in Colombo is that the new system will throw more work on the Treasury, which will have to do all the accounting work.

Prince Pu Lun, special Chinese Commissioner to the S. Louis Exposition, who is a great-grandson of the Emperor Tao Kuang, and a grandson of the third Emperor, arrived at Woosung on the 9th inst. in the C.M.S. *Anping*, and devoted the afternoon to visiting the Chinese men-of-war at Woosung.

The captain of a coasting steamer bought half a Macao lottery ticket from a Chinaman, who subsequently came and told him that he had won the first prize, half of \$60,000. The captain could not find the ticket. He sent to a certain coast-port, his headquarters, to see if it could be found at home, but a negative reply resulted.

A few more details of the first train to Tsinanfu, whose arrival our Shanghai telegram announced in the 17th inst., are to be found in the N.-C. *Daily News*, whose correspondent telegraphs under date Tsinanfu, 16th March:—Gay with Chinese and German flags, the locomotive decked with evergreens, the first through train on the Shantung railway ran into Tsinanfu at nine o'clock last night. The distance from Tsingtao is 406 kilometres (252 miles), and the time consumed was fourteen hours. The Governor's band serenaded the incoming train, which carried a party of over twenty Germans. A grand illumination and fireworks combined to make it a beautiful scene.

Mr. Henry O'Shea's connection with the *Shanghai Times* ceased on the 5th inst., that journal announces

The financial report of the Bank of Taiwan to the 31st December last shows a net profit of 153,714 yen. The total assets amounted to 18,073,360 yen. The Bank has an authorised capital of 5,000,000 yen, only half of which is paid up, and the reserve fund amounts to 299,500 yen.

A French subject named Henri Fouque and a Japanese have been committed for trial at Yokohama on a charge of fraudulently obtaining 2,795 yen from the Yokohama Specie Bank and a Chinese exchange, as well as an attempt to defraud the Russo-Chinese Bank of 13,500 yen by means of forged cheques.

A report reached London from Paris last month that the agreement now reached between France and Siam does not differ very greatly from the agreement of October, 1902, the ratification of which was prevented by the French Colonial party. The Bangkok Government, it is believed, has now given way on some minor points, particularly concerning the appointment of more Frenchmen in the Siamese service. The recession of Chantaboon to its lawful owner remains, and to Siam this, and the question of railway communication in the Mekong Valley, are the chief points.

A sad case of suicide at Yokohama is reported in the Japan papers, the victim being a Mr. D. Bacon, an American, who had recently come to Japan. According to the account given in the *Japan Gazette*, it appeared that the deceased was invited to dinner at the residence of Mrs. Forrest, No. 26, Bluff. After dinner a dance took place, but Mr. Bacon did not participate in it, having retired to a back room. About one o'clock one of the ladies present went to the room where Mr. Bacon was, and was horrified to observe that he was holding a revolver with its muzzle pointing at his temple. Before she could stop him, Mr. Bacon pulled the trigger and fell down dead, the ball penetrating into his brain. Mr. Bacon is described as the son of a well-known New York merchant who has a connection with the Standard Oil Company.

According to the *Deutsch Asiatische Warte*, the 6th inst. was to be a red-letter day for Tsingtao, as the first mole in the new harbour was to be opened to traffic. The following was to be the programme:—"The opening ceremony is to commence at 11 a.m., when S.M.S. *Iltis* followed by the s.s. *Gouverneur Jaschke* will enter the harbour and make fast alongside the new pier. On arrival at the pier, Governor Truppel and the second Admiral of the cruiser squadron will disembark, when he will be met by the Director of the department of harbour construction, who will report the pier ready for traffic. A locomotive from the Shantung railway company, coming from Tsingtao will then run slowly along the mole, cutting a rope stretched across the track. This is to be followed by an address by Governor Truppel, ending with the *Kaiserkoch* whilst the band will play the national anthem."

The cableship *Scotia* was wrecked last week off the island of Guam. It is impossible to say whether she can be salved or will be a total loss. The *Scotia* is a vessel of 4,667 tons register, built in 1861 and was commanded by Captain Rushton. She is the property of the Commercial Company's fleet for cable-laying and repair work. The *Scotia* was on her way to Guam from Hongkong when she was wrecked.

The scenic charms of Ceylon appear to have laid firm hold of Sir Henry Blake, and he has given frequent expression to his feelings of admiration. A Colombo paper remarks that when Sir Henry referred to Galle as the sport "where once older nations exchanged the wealth of two hemispheres," he must have quite startled the good people of Galle, and says that "the condensed report of his remarks reads like an extract from *Lothar*"—hardly a criticism justified by the speech, we think. We note, by the way, that in the course of the speech our late Governor said that apprehensions as to plague in Ceylon were exaggerated, as his large experience showed that plague could not exist in a temperature like Ceylon's.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 12th March, 1904.—Re-reels.—Few transactions since our last Circular, R. R. No. 3 Yee Wo Hing's "White Ticket" fetched \$710. Filatures.—During the past few days there has been a fair demand, prices close a little steadier for 6th crop lots, after the decline mentioned in our last. We quote:—Kgong Wo On, 9/11 @ \$850 Yee Wo Cheong 18/22 @ \$720 Kum Lun Tai 13/15 @ \$905. Short-reels.—Some transactions have been made in this silk at low prices from which we quote:—Kwong Shun Hing and Tien Po Hing @ \$820 and Wing We Hing @ \$780. Waste silk.—Since our last circular prices have gradually declined and the last sale of "Steam Extra selected opened" was @ \$139.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son, in their Circular of 15th of March, state:—The home markets are dull. Raw Silk.—There has been a large business done in Tsatees for the Continent. Prices have advanced Tls. 30 per picul, whilst in the country the advance has been more marked—the market closing firm. Yellow Silk.—Transactions are very limited. Hand Filatures.—A large business is reported chiefly for Europe. Steam Filatures.—Very little business doing. Tussah Filatures.—Have been in demand at prices ranging low. Waste Silk.—Very little business reported. Gum Wastes are in small supply and held for high prices. No contracts have been made in Tussah Waste owing to the uncertainty of arrivals from Newchwang and surrounding country.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG 25th March.—The prices are the same as when last reported.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.40 to \$8.45 pcls.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.50 to 7.55 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.70 to 5.75 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.25 to 8.30 "
Do. " 2, White.....	7.40 to 7.45 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.75 to 5.80 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.55 to 5.60 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.75 to 12.80 "
Shekloong	10.90 to 11.00 "

RICE.

Hongkong 25th March.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$3.00 to \$3.05
" Round, good quality	3.60 to 3.65
" Long	3.70 to 3.75
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.45 to 3.50
" Garden, " No. 1	3.60 to 3.65
" White,	4.25 to 4.30
" Fine Cargo	4.45 to 4.50

Messrs. W. G. Hale & Co. of Saigon, in their Monthly Circular dated March 11th, state:—During the period under review, our market has shown signs of weakness due to the falling off in the demand for China, and to the general dullness of the other markets. Were it not for the Annamite planters being able to hold their stocks, price would have, in the absence of demand, shown a more marked decline than they did. A large business, at the decline, has been done with France; and some transactions have taken place with the Philippines. At the close our market remains dull with next to no demand.

OPIUM.

24th March.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.	
Malwa New	\$900 to \$920 per picul.
Malwa Old	\$910 to \$960 do.
Malwa Older	\$1,040 to \$1,080 do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1,080 to \$1,110 do.
Persian fine quality.	\$480 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$890 to — do.
Patna New	\$1,277 to — per chest.
Patna Old	— to — do.
Benares New	\$1,257 to — do.
Benares Old	— to — do.

COTTON.

HONGKONG 24th March.—Small business at a rise of \$1. Stock about 1,200 bales.	
Bombay.....	27.00 to 29.00 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon {	28.00 to 31.50
and Dacca.....}	"
Shanghai and Japanese, 31.50 to 32.00	"
Tungchow and Ningpo, 31.50 to 32.00	"
Sale:—200 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong March 11th, states:—The market shows a further small advance on last quotations, but is quiet at the close, the high prices now demanded checking business. Sales have been confined to best spinnings of favourite chops, while other tickets coming under the category of good to best, but in less favour with the dealers, have been passed over for lower prices. Low class threads are still unsaleable. Deliveries continue very small, but with limited receipts and the continuance of a strong market in Bombay, the present position will in all probability be maintained. We estimate stocks of unsold goods at 28,000 and of sold but uncleared goods at 35,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—The local mill is doing nothing; the cost of production greatly exceeding prices current.

Japanese Yarn:—An improvement of \$2 to \$3 in rates, has been established and sales of about 300 bales No. 20s at from \$133 to \$137 are reported.

Raw Cotton:—The very marked variations which have taken place on the other side, have only been reflected locally to a minor degree, business effected being about 200 bales superfine Bengals changing hands at \$30, with an estimated unsold stock of 1,500 bales. In China descriptions a sale of 60 bales Thoongchow at \$32 has transpired. Quotations are Bengal \$28 to \$32, and China \$31 to \$33.

Exchange on India has steadily declined and closes to-day at Rs. 134 for T/T and Rs. 134 for Post. On Shanghai 71, and on Yokohama 89.

The undenoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ending 11th instant, viz:

Indian—Have been in better demand at an advance of one Tael in No. 20s, and half a Tael in other counts: total sales aggregating 3,289 bales, comprising 965 bales No. 10s, 460 bales No. 12s, 100 bales No. 16s, and 1,764 bales No. 20s, market closing firm with estimated unsold stock of 37,000 bales.

Japanese:—In sympathy with the Indian article, prices have risen one to two Taels, No. 16s selling at \$7 to 91 Taels, and No. 20s at Tls. 93 to 98, the total business amounting to 1,500 bales—close firm.

Local:—Business is still confined amongst native dealers.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 25th March.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—	
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00
Reported sales 1,500 bales.	

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
7 lbs.	2.50 to 2.80
8.4 lbs.	3.50 to 4.25
9 to 10 lbs.	4.30 to 5.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.90 to 3.25
58 to 60 "	3.50 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.25 to 5.75
Fine.....	6.00 to 8.50
Book-folds 5.00 to 8.00	
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.85 to 1.75
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.30 to 2.80
7lbs. (32 "), " .	2.50 to 3.00
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.50 to 3.00
7lbs. (32 "), " .	3.10 to 3.30
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.30 to 4.05
Drills, English—40 yds., 13{ to 14 lbs.	4.75 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1{ to 8 lbs.	1.90 to 4.25
Brocades—Dyed	0.14 to 0.15

DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	0.9 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.26 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.18 to 0.22
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.75 to 1.00
WOOLLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.75 to 2.50
German	0.60 to 0.85
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 4.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	7.80 to 9.50
Assorted	7.95 to 9.65
Camlets—Assorted	13.00 to 35.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	12.50 to 21.00
Assorted	12.50 to 21.00
Orleans—Plain, 31 in.	10.00 to —

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 4.50 to 9.50
Fine quality 1.25 to 1.85

METALS— per picul

Iron—Nail Rod 4.25 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 4.25 to —

Swedish Bar 4.30 to —

Small Round Rod 4.50 to —

Hoop 1 to 11/2 in. 6.40 to —

Wire, 16/25 oz. 9.80 to —

Wire Rope, Old 3.00 to —

METALS— per picul

Lead, I. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 8.40 to —

Australian 8.40 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 39.00 to —

Vivian's 14/20 oz. 39.00 to —

Elliot's 14/20 oz. 39.00 to —

Composition Nails 61.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs 38.50 to —

Tin 77.50 to —

Tin-Plates 6.80 to —

per cwt. cases

Steel 1 to 1{ 6.20 to —

Quicksilver 155.00 to —

per box

Window Glass 4.25 to —

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 25th March,

Beans \$3.70

Borax \$17{

Per steamer *Zoon*, sailed on 16th March. For Aden:—750 bags sugar. For Beyrouth:—2 cases silk. For Odessa:—10 cases bristles, 4 cases tea-sticks. For Port Said:—1 case blackwoodware. For Naples:—100 boxes cassia lignea, 5 cases essential oil. For Genoa:—400 cases cassia, 265 bales raw silk, 125 cases essential oil, 100 bales cassia, 6 cases chinaware, 5 cases essential oil, 3 rolls matting. For Antwerp:—4 cases cigars, 1 case curios. For Antwerp and Hamburg:—60 cases bristles, 14 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—25 cases preserves, 22 cases chinaware. For Amsterdam and Rotterdam:—200 cases cassia. For Rotterdam:—153 bales canes, 27 bales matting. For Bremen:—36 rolls matting, 5 cases furniture, 1 case effects. For Bremen and Hamburg:—55 bales feathers, 22 cases chinaware. For Hamburg:—344 bales feathers, 299 cases cassia, 135 bales canes, 20 cases essential oil, 13 cases curios, 8 cases effects, 3 cases feathers, 2 bales matting, 2 cases cigars. For London:—150 rolls matting, 50 cases essential oil. For Copenhagen:—67 bales feathers. For Farsund: 8 cases effects.

Per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, sailed on 22nd Mar. For Marseilles:—483 bales raw silk, 4 bales waste silk, 9 packages silks, 25 packages hair, 3 cases ylang ylang, 134 bales pierced cocoons, 23 packages sundries. For Lyons:—529 bales raw silk. For Milan:—60 bales raw silk. For London:—2 cases documents.

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 25th March, 1904.—A better feeling has prevailed in our market during the past week, and an improvement in several quotations has been established. Indo-Chinas and China Sugars have again received a fair share of attention, both stocks closing steady.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have sold at \$605 and \$607½ closing in further request at the higher rate. London has advanced to £61. Nationals after sales at \$35 are enquired for at \$35½.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have receded to \$470 at which sales have been effected, and there are further small buyers. China Traders have sold at \$55½ and can now be placed at \$56. North Chinas, Yangtze, and Cantons are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue in request at \$282½. Chinas have been booked at \$3 and \$84 and are in further request at the former rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are enquired for at \$26½ after sales at \$26 and \$26½. Indo-Chinas have received considerable attention, and sales at \$88 to \$89 cash, and equivalent forward rates, have been effected, the market closing with further cash buyers at \$88. China and Manilas have improved to \$22 at which a few shares can be placed. Douglas are firm with buyers at \$33. Star Ferries (old) continue in request at \$30. Shell Transports after sales at 19½ and 19½ are on offer at the lower rate.

REFINERIES—China Sugars have changed hands at \$108½ and \$10½, and more shares are wanted. Luzon's are unaltered and without business.

MINING.—Raub's have declined to \$7 sellers.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Small sales of Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been effected at \$205 at which rate more shares are procurable. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have again been booked at \$92½. Faruhams are weak at Tls. 140.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue to decline, and shares are now obtainable at \$145. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged at \$33 and \$53 respectively. Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$135 ex the dividend of \$5 per share for the half year ending 31st December 1903, paid on the 21st instant. Humphreys Estates have sold at \$10½ and \$10½ for the old, and \$2 60 for the new issues. Shanghai Lands have declined to Tls. 107.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons are lower with sellers at \$14½. There is no change in the quotations from the North.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements are quiet at \$25 with probable sellers. China Borneos are procurable at \$8½ ex the dividend of 60 cents per share for 1903, paid on the 21st instant. Watsons have sold at \$14 and are wanted. Electrics (old) have been booked at

\$12½ and a small parcel is now enquired for at \$12½. Ropes continue on offer at \$142½. China Providents have sold and are still on offer at \$84. China Light and Powers have improved to \$5 buyers.

MEMOS.—Watkins, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 26th instant. Campbell, Moore & Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 31st instant. Green Island Cement Co., Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 6th April, transfer books closed from the 2nd to 6th April inclusive.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shai... Nat'l. Bank of China.	\$125 £8 £8 £1	\$6·7½. L'don, £61. \$35½, buyers \$35½, buyers \$10.
Insurance—		
Union China Traders North China..... Yangtze..... Canton..... Hongkong Fire	\$100 \$25 £5 \$50 \$50 \$20	\$470, sales & sellers \$56, buyers Tls. 67½, sales \$135. \$175, sellers \$282½, buyers \$83, buyers
Steamship Cos.—		
H. Canton and M... Indo-China S. N. China and Manila... Douglas Steamship Star Ferry.....{	\$15 £10 \$50 \$50 \$5	\$264, buyers \$88, buyers \$22, buyers \$33, buyers \$184, sellers
Shell Transport and {	£1	19/-.
Trading Co.....{ Do. pref. shares.....	£10	£10, nominal
Refineries—		
China Sugar Luzon Sugar.....	\$100 \$100	\$109, buyers \$10, sellers
Mining—		
Punjoin Do. Preference... Charbonnages Raub's	\$11 \$1 Frs. 250 18. 10d.	\$1, sellers 25 cents \$500. \$7, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock H. & K. Wharf & G. New Amoy Dock ... S. C. F. Boyd & Co....	\$50 \$50 \$60 Tls. 100	\$205, sellers \$92½, sales & buyers \$37½, sellers Tls. 140.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv. Kowloon Land & B. WestPoint Building Hongkong Hotel	\$100 \$30 \$50 \$50	\$145, sellers \$35, sellers \$53, sellers \$135, ex div. & buy.
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10½.
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	\$2.60, sales & buy. Tls. 107.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo International ... Laou Kung Mow ... Soychee Hongkong	Tls. 50 Tls. 70 Tls. 100 Tls. 500 \$10	Tls. 33, sellers Tls. 25. Tls. 32½. Tls. 170. \$14½, sellers
Green Island Cement.	\$10	\$25.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$8.23, ex div., &
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$14, sales & buyers
Hongkong Electric {	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas....	\$5	\$6½, sellers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$10	\$140, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$220, sellers
H. H. L. Trainways...	\$100	\$300.
Hk. Steam Water- {	\$0	\$15½, sellers
Boat Co., Ltd.	\$6	\$12½.
Dairy Farm	\$10	\$49, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	12/6	\$5, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	\$4	\$9, buyers
United Asbestos	\$10	\$210, buyers
Do.....{	\$5	\$1, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$10	\$8.75, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$7½, sellers
Watkins Ld.....	\$10	\$5, buyers
ChinaLight & Power {	\$10	\$9½, ex div..
Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$9½, ex div..
Powell, Ld.....	\$10	\$50.
Shanghai and Hong- {	\$50	\$50.
kong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Canton, Hongkong Ice Cigar Companies—	\$500	\$200.
Alhambra Limited.	\$10	\$10, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Tru-t Co., Ltd.)	\$10	\$10, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report, dated 18th March, state:—We have to record a considerable business in shares during the past week. Towards the close a weakness in the prices set in, but this we believe to be, in a large measure, owing to the pending quarterly settlement at the end of this month. This Settlement is a very large one, but we have good reason for believing that it will pass off quietly, as so much has been done during this month to settle account transactions. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. The only business reported locally is at \$605 and 607½ for the Settlement. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indos opened on the 10th with sales for the Settlement at Tls. 63. On the 11th at 62½ cash shares changed hands. 12th at 60 cash, 60½ and 62 March, and 63 July. 14th at 62½ March, 62 July and May, 63½ July. 15th at 62, 63 April, and 64½ July. 16th at 63 March and April. The market closes quiet with sellers. Shanghai Tug and Lighter Co. Ordinaries have been placed at Tls. 50 and Preference at 48. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. On the 10th the Market opened with sales at Tls. 142, 144 and 144½ March, 146 April, 147½ June, 150, 151, 150, July. 11th at 145 March, 149, 150 and 148 June, 151 July. On the 14th at 144 cash, 144½ March, 149½ July; 15th at 142 April, 145 June, 147½ July. On the 16th 141 cash, 141 March, 143 April, 147½ July. The market closes quiet with sellers at the above rates cash and forward. Shanghai and Hongkow Wharves. The Report and Accounts just issued show a balance of Profit and Loss of only Tls. 162,895.70. This is evidently a disappointment to many, notwithstanding the fact that the Directors propose to pay a final dividend of Tls. 6 per share, making Tls. 11 for the year; but shares were forced into the market beginning at Tls. 195 March, falling to 185 June, so short sales were covered on the 15th for March at 192½ and 190. Yesterday the market closed with 185 March and June, with sellers at these rates. Sugars Cos.—No business reported. Mining.—Weihsien Golds have been placed at \$15, and are wanted at this rate. Kaipings bearer scrip have been placed at Tls. 6. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 109. Industrial.—Cotton stocks have not been dealt in Shanghai. Paper & Pulps have been placed at Tls. 105 March delivery. Major Bros. at Tls. 40, and Shanghai Ices at Tls. 17. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. A considerable business has been done in this, the market opening on the 10th with sales for March at Tls. 300 and 312½ June. 11th at 300 March, 310 May, 315 June. 12th 300 March, 305 April, 315/317½ June, 320 July. 14th at 300 cash, 317½ June, 322½ July. On 15th the Company paid the first dividend of the year presumed to be for the first quarter, of Tls. 10; business transacted that day and subsequently, was quoted ex this dividend. The market opened at 292½ cash 16th, 292½ to 290 March, 295 April and 305 June. To-day business has been done in June shares at Tls. 305. The cash and March market is easier and shares may be had a little under the above rates. Stores and Hotels.—Hall & Holtz have been placed at \$28½ and 28. Centrals at \$20 c. n. i. Astor House Hotels at \$30 and 31½, 33 and 35 July. This rise is entirely due to the fact that the Hotel, even with its new premises, is fully occupied, and they have to refuse guests. Miscellaneous.—No business reported in these stocks. Loans.—Shanghai Land Debs., 6 per cent., have been placed at Tls. 99. A transaction is reported in Chinese Engineering and Minings Debs. of 6 per cent. of £20 each at £71 4s. ex 2/7½.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 25th March.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	226
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ON GERMANY.—

Credits 4 months' sight	230½
On demand	184

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	43½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44½

ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand	134
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ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer

Bank, on demand	134
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ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight

Bank, at sight	71½
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Private, 30 days' sight	72½
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March 26, 1904.]

ON YOKOHAMA—ON demand89
ON MANILA.—On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—On demand1084
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand1½ p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand1 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand62
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	... \$11
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael58.30
BAR SILVER, per oz.25½

FREIGHTS.

Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. General cargo 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 per ton of 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre:—General 48/- net, per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds, 47/6 net, per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (Overland):—Tea 1½ G\$ cents per lb. gross. To New York, via Suez, 30/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. To Shanghai:—Tea, Taels 1.80 per ton of 13 half-chests. To Shanghai:—General, Taels 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 25th March.—Freights coastwise have continued firm but at the close the demand is somewhat easier, especially for tonnage on time charter.

Saigon to Hongkong, again business has been transacted, medium sized steamers being in demand, at 23 cents per picul.

Saigon to Philippines, the demand has somewhat slackened. Closing rate being 42 cents per picul.

Coal freights.—Japan to Hongkong, \$3 per ton, to Singapore, \$3.20 with slight enquiry. The following are the settlements:—

Vale of Doon—Sar. barque, 669 tons, two trips, Rajang to Hongkong, \$8,500 each trip.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 45 cents per picul.

Taksang—British steamer, 977 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 45 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Newchwang to Canton, 45 cents per picul.

Sambia—German steamer, 3,623 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3.25 (part cargo).

Binh Thuan—French steamer, 983 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Kumsang—British steamer, 2,078 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Bourbon—British steamer, 907 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 cents per picul.

Telemachus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21½ cents per picul.

Gaea—Norwegian steamer, 624 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Bredt—Norwegian steamer, 645 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Dagmar—German steamer, 921 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Nan Shan—British steamer, 1,299 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Hopsang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Johanne—German steamer, 975 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 42 cents per picul.

Kampot—French steamer, 647 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 42 cents per picul.

Quangnam—French steamer, 710 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 42 cents per picul.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

March—
20, Lyndhurst, British 4-m. bark, from Kobe.
20, Namsang, British str., from Colombo.
20, Ningchow, British str., from Liverpool.
20, Seydney, French str., from Shanghai.
21, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
21, Elis. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
21, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.

ARRIVALS.

21, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
21, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
21, Nicomedia, German str., from Manila.
21, Paknam, German str., from Bangkok.
21, S. van Langkut, Dutch str., from Langkut.
21, Taiyuan, British str., from Melbourne.
21, Tritos, German str., from Amoy.
21, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Moji.
21, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
22, Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
22, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
22, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
22, Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
22, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
22, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
22, Luchs, German gunboat, from Canton.
22, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.
22, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.
22, Ovia, British str., from Moji.
22, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.
22, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
23, Fausang, British str., from Moji.
23, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
23, Hiusang, British str., from Moji.
23, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
23, Mathilde, German str., from Tourane.
23, Shansi, British str., from Cebu.
23, Talbot, British cruiser, from practice.
23, Tientsin, British str., from Chinkiang.
23, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Macassar.
24, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
24, Emma Luyken, German str., from Saigon.
24, Esang, British str., from Tientsin.
24, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
24, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
24, Perla, British str., from Kobe.
24, Silesia, Austrian str., from Kobe.
24, Simla, British str., from Shanghai.
24, Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.
24, Vale of Doon, Sarawak bgs., from Rajang.

DEPARTURES.

March—
21, Ajax, British str., for London.
21, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
21, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
21, Phra C. C. Kiao, German str., for Kobe.
21, Phranang, Chinese str., for Hoihow.
21, Stolberg, German str., for Takao.
21, Waihara, British str., for Amoy.
22, Asama, British str., for Rangoon.
22, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
22, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
22, New Orleans, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.
22, Palawan, British str., for Yokohama.
22, Sambia, German str., for Hamburg.
22, Sullberg, German str., for Kobe.
22, Sydney, French str., for Europe.
22, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., for Macassar.
22, Warrior, British str., for Karatsu.
22, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
22, Wuochang, British str., for Ilolo.
23, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
23, Chingtu, British str., for Kobe.
23, Elba, Italian cruiser, for Shanghai.
23, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
23, Katfong, British str., for Manila.
23, Paklat, German str., for Swatow.
23, Palamocotta, British str., for Rangoon.
23, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
23, Tritos, German str., for Anping.
24, Franz Ferdinand, Austrian str., for Kobe.
24, Hoihao, French str., for Haiphong.
24, Indrasamha, British str., for Portland.
24, Mathilde, German str., for Canton.
24, M. Struve, German str., for Swatow.
24, Namsang, British str., for Calcutta.
24, Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Seestern, British str., for Yap.
24, Strathnevis, British str., for Calcutta.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Tremont, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clinton, Mrs. and Miss Curtis, Capt. and Mrs. Keller, Mr. and Mrs. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Mrs. McKay and 2 children, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Trombley, Mrs. Monson, Mrs. G. B. Hart, Mrs. Henley, Mrs. Stein and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. McNeely, Misses Campbell and Yusanta, Dr. Sherman, Capt. Ward, Messrs. R. H. Sherlock, J. B. Suttor, R. Walter, L. B. Cocke, C. W. Turner, Lewis Wax, P. Carley, Goldsmith, O. D. Miller, B. C. Dickey, T. W. Stein, C. H. Hope, S. K. Cobcor, T. W. Rase, J. Weismann, and J. McConn.

Per Sydney, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. Razza, D. Iatsu, and S. W. Milne; from Nagasaki, l'Abbé Corre; from Shanghai, Messrs.

M. D. Danin, M. Ste. Movellan, H. Prickney, R. M. Esnestarh, N. R. Kinneau, Duchemin, A. S. Jesus, and M. C. Hall; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Messrs. Le Tur Jean, Morran Paul, and Dourand Louis; for Singapore, from Kobe, Messrs. Adzuno, M. Schwartz, Schnsten, and R. L. Leimberton; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mrs. Razza and 8 children; for Port Said, from Yokohama, Mr. Yamamura and son; from Kobe, Mr. Hitthin; from Shanghai, Mrs. Wun, and Mr. Dal Ferro; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Attelio Alphicie, Louis Clement, and H. Parker; from Shanghai, Mrs. Paolor, Mrs. de Heftler, Messrs. Marty, Duval, Cailland, Kotakoff, Beauvais, Taramella, Tieppo Federico, L. Pinardi, Siegert, J. N. Waidlow, Cozian, J. Crosfield, Pox, and Dr. Wilson.

Per Tuiyuan, from Melbourne, Mr. Clarke; from Sydney, Mrs. Lyher and 3 children, Capt. J. Carew, Messrs. Field, Bourker, Kempthorn, Ushman, Leon, G. Lock, R. Glendinning, J. Glendinning, Cassey, Paxinos, Glendinning, and Dobson, Mr. and Mrs. McCrae; from Brisbane, Sergt. Head, and Constable Lyons; from Port Darwin, Mr. Saline; from Thursday Island, Mr. Sero; from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Humphries, Miss Simpson, Messrs. Carpenter, Durham, Wise, Stolzel, Spicer, and Gabruan.

Per Salazie, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mrs. Plint and infant, Messrs. T. Foreman, Bounaud, Ouchisque, and Kops; from Colombo, Mr. Abdul Gaffar; from Singapore, Messrs. Jeffrey, Young, Hundhausen, and Thilgmour; from Saigon, Messrs. Cinzemkinur, L. C. Grant, Thos. Trevillyan, Delacourcelle, and Collin; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mrs. Roudon, Mrs. V. Teste, Mr. and Mrs. Chaumelin and daughter, Messrs. Nigg, Ruegg, Bourgeoy, Laidet, Leanne, Colomb, Teste, R. F. Leyde, and Lazareth Liva and daughter; from Port Said, Messrs. Mohamed Ali and Sottiris; from Colombo, Mrs. Cotsicos, Mr. and Mrs. Muscati, Messrs. Landis, Cotsicos, and Blumentritt; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Steruberg, Mr. and Mrs. Gorbolewski and 4 children, Rev. Monnier, Messrs. Bonnet, Amano, Lipees, Blanchard, and Wallerworth; from Saigon, Mrs. K. Bava, and Mr. De-pinafol; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr. Nagai; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Adam and infant, Messrs. de Lapeyrière, Hermanovitch, G. Lefevre, Roudon, Derouzier, Sarda, Blum, Takashi Kan, Menier, Suzuki, Andalast, Nakao, Naruze, Watanabe, Le Corvec, Bourtau, God, and Duigon; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Guerin, Messrs. Loir, Page, Pilat, Guenot, Nagano, Dalley, and Pav Lip Tyoy.

Per Tjipanas, from Macassar, Messrs. Hanson, Hudig, de Rakovsky, de Masnevic, Schreuder, and Disink.

DEPARTED.

Per Hamburg, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bevis, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Chagas, Mrs. Woodward, Mrs. Gorham, Mr. and Mrs. Candutte, Rev. C. Hardy, Inspl. Kohler, Dr. Nathan Misses M. and A. Villesme, Messrs. T. H. Lyle, Little, Stempel, J. A. Pond, G. Harling, E. Fischer, Fuchs, Hubbe, J. S. Plant, F. H. Kirchhoff, Abraham, M. Chnssel, Pereira, Souza, Levy, A. Riechel, S. Schulz, M. Russ, A. Kurselwett, D. Hall, and R. Hanese, for Nagasaki, Misses Stones and Moles; for Kobe, Messrs. C. R. Palmer Moorewood and R. C. Palmer Moorewood; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Meurer, Mr. and Mrs. Kufahl, Messrs. W. M. Hick, B. Schwiering, A. V. Hellfel, H. Stuberanck, Paul Quiesner, O. Friedrichs, and B. Lutgens.

Per Sydney, for Saigon, Messrs. Fisher and G. Koenig; for Singapore, Messrs. C. H. Brown D. Chafcouloff, and McDonald; for Colombo, Messrs. M. N. Mehta, B. B. Bhesania, D. S. Siganporia, and M. A. Raza; for Port Said, Mr. F. van Homvelingen; for Marseilles, Mongr. Maximo Fernandez, Messrs. A. Koizumi and Donald Piper.

Per Salazie, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Castle, Mr. and Mrs. M. de Souza, Mrs. D. Wechler, Mrs. Maguale, Messrs. Jablin, R. Carr, Bernard Faymonville, N. F. Drake, A. Plaisant, R. M. Eisenstark, M. Paide, G. Paxime, Jumillarb, Pichon, H. H. Horsey, and Ellis Kadoorie.

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